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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
GENERAL STATISTICS BRANCH
OTTAWA - CANADA.

Issued Feb. 17, 1937.

Dominion Statistician:	R. H. Coats, LL.D., F.R.S.C., F.S.S.(Hon.)
In Charge Employment Statistics:	M. E. K. Roughsedge.

BUILDING PERMITS REPORTS FOR JANUARY, 1937, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS
FOR DECEMBER, 1936, AND JANUARY, 1936.

There was a seasonal decline in the value of the building permits issued by 58 cities during January as compared with the preceding month, but the total was considerably higher than in January, 1936; the co-operating municipalities reported permits for buildings estimated to cost \$1,684,502, compared with \$3,282,166 in December, 1936, and \$1,302,758 in January of last year. There was, therefore, a reduction of 48.7 p.c. in the first comparison, but an increase of 29.3 p.c. in the second and more significant comparison.

Some 50 cities furnished detailed statements, showing that they had granted some 110 permits for dwellings valued at over \$605,000, and more than 500 permits for other buildings estimated to cost approximately \$850,000. In December, authority was granted for the erection of some 165 dwellings and 700 other buildings, estimated to cost approximately \$1,200,000 and \$1,700,000, respectively.

New Brunswick only, reported an increase in the value of the building authorized in January over December, 1936, there being a gain of \$22,200 or 206.0 p.c. in this comparison. Of the declines elsewhere recorded, the most marked were those of \$530,658 or 59.1 p.c. in Quebec, and \$860,151 or 49.4 p.c. in Ontario.

As compared with January, 1936, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan and Alberta showed increases, that of \$423,021 in Ontario being largest. In Manitoba and British Columbia, on the other hand, the value of projected building as represented by the building permits taken out showed reductions, that of \$205,166 or 46.9 p.c. in the latter being considerable.

In Winnipeg and Vancouver there were decreases in the value of the building permits granted as compared with the preceding month, and also as compared with the same month of last year; in Montreal and Toronto there was a decline in the former, but an increase in the latter comparison. The following cities reported increases as compared with December and also as compared with January of last year,-- Sydney, Fredericton, Quebec, Westmount, Brantford, Guelph, Kitchener, London, Niagara Falls, Stratford, York and East York Townships, Welland, Windsor, Regina, Calgary and Victoria.

RECORD FOR JANUARY IN THE YEARS 1920-1937.

The following table gives the value of the building authorized by 58 cities during January of each year since 1920. Index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials in January of the same years are also given, (1926=100).

Year	Value of permits issued in January	Indexes of value of permits issued in January (1926=100)	Indexes of wholesale prices of building materials in January (1926 average =100)
1937	\$ 1,684,502	35.7	81.3
1936	1,302,758	27.6	81.2
1935	882,878	18.7	81.8
1934	707,812	15.0	82.1
1933	1,185,961	25.1	75.7
1932	2,761,929	58.5	79.4
1931	8,401,456	178.0	84.0
1930	7,217,397	152.9	97.4
1929	8,416,880	178.3	98.0
1928	7,716,587	163.5	95.2
1927	5,676,537	120.3	96.8
1926	4,719,534	100.0	102.3
1925	5,447,270	115.4	101.9
1924	4,460,579	94.5	112.4
1923	4,139,498	87.7	109.8
1922	3,326,537	70.5	109.4
1921	2,595,564	55.0	143.0
1920	4,017,024	85.1	134.5

The 1937 figure was higher by 29.3 p.c. than in January, 1936, and was also higher than in 1935, 1934 and 1933, but with these exceptions was lower than in any other year since 1920. The wholesale costs of building materials in recent months have been rather higher than in the same period of the last few years, although they continue lower than in any of the years, 1930-1920.

The table on page 2 gives the value of the building permits issued by 58 cities in January, 1937, and December and January, 1936. The statistics for all but the present year are based on revised statements furnished by the civic officials after the close of the year. The 35 cities for which statistics are available since 1910 are indicated thus "x".

7

Estimated Value of Construction Work as Indicated by Building Permits Issued by 58 Cities.

C i t i e s	January, 1937	December, 1936	January, 1936
	\$	\$	\$
P. E. I. - Charlottetown	-	Nil	Nil
Nova Scotia	67,370	80,310	52,640
x Halifax	63,470	73,660	50,640
New Glasgow	Nil	4,500	Nil
x Sydney	3,900	2,150	2,000
New Brunswick	32,975	10,775	19,035
Fredericton	25,000	4,000	Nil
x Moncton	Nil	1,090	11,000
x Saint John	7,975	5,685	8,035
Quebec	367,145	897,803	288,946
x Montreal - x Maisonneuve	305,250	843,590	271,021
x Quebec	14,425	1,135	1,525
Shawinigan Falls	Nil	12,943	Nil
x Sherbrooke	7,100	5,500	9,500
x Three Rivers	10,375	16,835	1,900
x Westmount	29,995	17,800	5,000
Ontario	879,780	1,739,931	456,759
Belleville	350	Nil	500
x Brantford	30,250	10,755	16,594
Chatham	5,850	32,600	3,050
x Fort William	500	1,800	Nil
Galt	570	1,510	1,771
x Guelph	4,475	285	485
x Hamilton	68,972	269,251	50,620
x Kingston	3,490	18,685	3,375
x Kitchener	44,971	16,095	7,600
x London	119,550	19,345	17,390
Niagara Falls	6,200	3,305	1,000
Oshawa	Nil	1,435	1,450
x Ottawa	15,100	47,400	22,000
Owen Sound	550	83,125	Nil
x Peterborough	2,131	3,585	2,500
x Port Arthur	1,250	8,385	2,040
x Stratford	2,425	1,843	1,400
x St. Catharines	15,625	37,465	272
x St. Thomas	Nil	11,500	140
Sarnia	4,765	5,830	4,225
Sault Ste. Marie	1,240	8,590	1,415
x Toronto	208,278	988,520	201,087
York & East York Townships	270,675	128,065	53,060
Welland	2,886	981	50
x Windsor	68,020	26,885	62,925
Riverside	Nil	2,275	Nil
Woodstock	1,657	10,416	1,810
Manitoba	26,300	48,350	34,166
x Brandon	1,000	Nil	3,766
St. Boniface	Nil	20,100	Nil
x Winnipeg	25,300	28,250	30,400
Saskatchewan	31,800	69,050	4,991
x Moose Jaw	Nil	9,250	4,175
x Regina	31,300	18,525	216
x Saskatoon	500	41,275	600
Alberta	47,255	71,444	9,178
x Calgary	35,705	9,526	6,848
x Edmonton	8,250	40,265	2,000
Lethbridge	3,300	21,653	330
Medicine Hat	Nil	Nil	Nil
British Columbia	231,877	364,503	437,043
Kamloops	20	265	1,380
Nanaimo	Nil	47,550	6,830
x New Westminster	4,800	17,700	17,100
Prince Rupert	1,810	48,765	2,100
x Vancouver	159,595	212,685	359,415
North Vancouver	800	5,070	575
x Victoria	64,852	32,468	49,643
Total - 58 Cities	1,684,502	3,282,166	1,302,758
Total -x 35 Cities	1,383,829	2,839,188	1,223,212

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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
GENERAL STATISTICS BRANCH
OTTAWA - CANADA

Issued May 18, 1937.

Dominion Statistician:	R. H. Coats, LL.D., F.R.S.C., F.S.S.(Hon.)
In Charge Employment Statistics:	M. E. K. Roughsedge.

BUILDING PERMITS FOR APRIL, 1937, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS FOR MARCH, 1937,
AND APRIL, 1936, AND CUMULATIVE FIGURES FOR FIRST FOUR MONTHS, 1920-1937.

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics tabulated returns from 58 cities which granted permits for construction work valued at \$6,098,036 during April, as compared with \$6,654,516 in the preceding month, and \$3,237,366 in the same month of last year. There was, therefore, a decline of \$556,480 or 8.4 p.c. as compared with March, but in the more significant comparison with April, 1936, there was an increase of \$2,860,670, or 88.4 p.c.

The estimated value of the construction authorized in the first four months of the present year was \$16,568,165; this was considerably higher than the aggregate of \$8,829,837 reported in the period January-April, 1936, being also higher than in these months of any other year since 1931. The cumulative total for the first four months in each of the last six years has been very much lower than in any earlier year of the record; the wholesale prices of building materials, though showing an upward movement in recent months, continue below the average for the seventeen years, 1920 to 1936.

Some 50 cities furnished detailed statistics for April, 1937, showing that they had issued more than 500 permits for dwellings valued at approximately \$1,800,000, and for over 2,700 other buildings, estimated to cost almost \$3,400,000. There was also reported one engineering project, valued at \$357,000. In March, authority was given for the erection of about 370 dwellings and 1,600 other buildings, valued at approximately \$1,210,000 and \$5,400,000, respectively.

Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta recorded increases in the value of the building represented by the permits issued during April as compared with the preceding month, the greatest gain of \$764,079 or 119.4 p.c. taking place in Quebec. In Ontario and British Columbia there were in this comparison declines of \$1,192,677 or 30.5 p.c. and \$828,410, or 44.3 p.c., respectively.

As compared with April, 1936, there were increases in Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and British Columbia, that of \$1,386,619 or 104.3 p.c. in Ontario and \$970,045 or 218.4 p.c. in Quebec being most noteworthy. In this comparison, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick and Alberta showed declines, of which that of \$389,069 or 59.6 p.c. in Alberta was greatest.

Three of the four largest cities, - Montreal, Toronto and Winnipeg - registered increases in the building authorized during April as compared with the preceding month, and also as compared with April, 1936. In Vancouver, the value was lower than in March, 1937, but higher than in April of last year. Of the other centres, Halifax, New Glasgow, Sydney, Moncton, Saint John, Shawinigan Falls, Sherbrooke, Three Rivers, Westmount, Fort William, Guelph, Hamilton, Kingston, Kitchener, London, Niagara Falls, Owen Sound, Port Arthur, St. Catharines, Sarnia, Sault Ste. Marie, Welland, Riverside, Woodstock, Brandon, St. Boniface, Moose Jaw, Saskatoon, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat, Nanaimo and North Vancouver reported increases in the value of the permits issued as compared with March, 1937, and also with April, 1936.

CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR FIRST FOUR MONTHS, 1920-1937.

The following table gives the value of the building authorized by 58 cities during April and in the first four months of each year since 1920, as well as index numbers for the latter, based upon the total for 1926 as 100. The average index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials in the first four months of the same years are also given, (1926=100).

Year	Value of permits issued in April	Value of permits issued in first four months	Indexes of value of permits issued in first four months (1926=100)	Average indexes of wholesale prices of building materials in first four months, (1926 average =100)
1937	\$6,098,036	\$16,568,165	39.9	93.8
1936	3,237,366	8,829,837	21.3	84.2
1935	6,300,046	14,807,316	35.6	81.5
1934	2,269,157	4,980,156	12.0	82.4
1933	1,595,502	4,661,323	11.2	75.1
1932	4,370,863	13,823,873	33.3	79.1
1931	13,495,165	38,241,259	92.1	83.7
1930	16,978,076	46,471,338	111.9	96.2
1929	29,656,709	72,606,937	174.8	99.4
1928	18,606,167	51,769,505	124.6	95.7
1927	17,312,470	42,340,823	101.9	96.3
1926	19,044,499	41,538,073	100.0	101.7
1925	15,482,383	35,463,398	85.4	103.1
1924	13,689,101	31,737,100	76.4	111.6
1923	19,530,851	39,008,970	93.9	110.8
1922	15,833,688	34,513,861	83.1	107.7
1921	13,500,360	27,069,872	65.2	136.9
1920	15,648,915	34,558,901	83.2	143.1

As already stated, the aggregate for the first four months of this year was decidedly higher than in the same period of 1936, and also substantially exceeded that for any preceding year since 1931. The index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials in 1937, though higher than in the months, January-April in any of the preceding six years, continue lower than in the same period in each of the years, 1920-1930.

Table 1 gives the value of the building permits issued by 58 cities during April and March, 1937, and April, 1936. The 35 cities for which records are available since 1910 are marked thus "x".

Estimated Value of Construction Work as Indicated by Building Permits Issued by 58 Cities.

C i t i e s	April	March	April
	1937	1937	1936
	\$	\$	\$
P.E.I.- Charlottetown	5,725	4,590	11,675
Nova Scotia	170,339	82,140	108,865
x Halifax	113,799	75,905	102,215
New Glasgow	18,550	250	Nil
x Sydney	37,990	5,985	6,650
New Brunswick	55,834	16,326	62,200
Fredericton	2,400	Nil	37,550
x Moncton	37,660	11,500	10,445
x Saint John	15,774	4,826	13,135
Quebec	1,414,261	640,132	444,210
x Montreal .. x Maisonneuve	1,033,065	491,782	304,765
x Quebec	60,356	71,760	35,590
Shawinigan Falls	17,225	3,850	7,625
x Sherbrooke	180,000	30,500	23,275
x Three Rivers	37,315	8,690	32,350
x Westmount	86,300	33,600	40,810
Ontario	2,716,529	3,909,206	1,329,910
Belleville	7,580	36,575	5,350
x Brantford	9,640	10,925	6,138
Chatham	9,300	11,200	37,975
x Fort William	43,480	2,475	23,725
Galt	22,517	40,885	16,925
x Guelph	19,912	6,775	4,251
x Hamilton	189,864	107,231	106,395
x Kingston	36,395	16,770	12,883
x Kitchener	129,728	33,033	26,662
x London	179,885	61,965	59,285
Niagara Falls	15,115	3,572	9,485
Oshawa	1,200	950	16,345
x Ottawa	223,355	768,315	71,485
Owen Sound	10,879	Nil	6,113
x Peterborough	18,484	10,795	26,872
x Port Arthur	421,087	10,170	12,900
x Stratford	6,687	7,530	755
x St. Catharines	85,069	17,252	15,874
x St. Thomas	1,212	2,750	3,530
Sarnia	9,023	6,580	5,720
Sault Ste. Marie	43,640	6,045	27,735
x Toronto	908,436	527,018	530,942
York & East York Townships	236,559	163,400	239,700
Welland	11,873	8,294	8,080
x Windsor	58,409	2,042,881	39,835
Riverside	6,300	3,350	4,700
Woodstock	10,300	3,465	9,749
Manitoba	287,100	37,045	67,725
x Brandon	8,775	4,100	925
St. Boniface	22,825	2,945	1,200
x Winnipeg	255,500	30,000	65,600
Saskatchewan	142,956	23,930	55,976
x Moose Jaw	5,910	4,235	1,200
x Regina	37,146	11,155	40,816
x Saskatoon	99,900	8,540	13,960
Alberta	263,574	70,969	652,643
x Calgary	61,939	33,049	212,343
x Edmonton	155,880	34,320	408,225
Lethbridge	42,405	3,600	31,525
Medicine Hat	3,350	Nil	550
British Columbia	1,041,718	1,870,128	505,256
Kamloops	5,900	4,700	18,990
Nanaimo	16,786	3,020	6,142
x New Westminster	53,600	60,670	24,990
Prince Rupert	500	1,425	320
x Vancouver	922,620	1,754,630	396,040
North Vancouver	6,080	2,110	2,070
x Victoria	36,232	43,573	56,704
Total ~ 58 Cities	6,098,036	6,654,516	3,237,366
Total ~ x 35 Cities	5,573,004	6,349,860	2,731,942

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In Charge Employment Statistics: M. E. K. Roughsedge.

BUILDING PERMITS FOR JULY, 1937, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS FOR JUNE, 1937,
AND JULY, 1936, AND CUMULATIVE FIGURES FOR FIRST SEVEN MONTHS, 1920-1937.

The value of the building represented by the permits taken out in 58 cities during July stood at \$5,397,422, a seasonal decline of \$616,246 or 10.2 p.c. as compared with the June, 1937, total of \$6,013,668; however, there was an increase of \$367,620 or 7.3 p.c. in the more significant comparison with the July, 1936, aggregate of \$5,029,802.

The value of the building authorized in the first seven months of the present year was \$33,378,744; this was 42.9 p.c. higher than the aggregate of \$23,352,686 reported in the period January - July, 1936, being also decidedly greater than in the first seven months of any other year since 1931. The cumulative total for the January - July period in each of the last six years has been very much lower than in earlier years of the record, being also considerably less than the seventeen-year average of \$71,456,383. While the wholesale prices of building materials have recently advanced, the index for the first seven months of 1937 was also below the average for the years since 1919.

for July, 1937,
Some 50 cities furnished detailed statistics, showing that they had issued about 400 permits for dwellings valued at nearly \$1,400,000, and some 2,000 permits for other buildings estimated at over \$3,300,000. In the preceding month, authority was given for the erection of some 500 dwellings and 2,600 other buildings, estimated to cost approximately \$2,100,000 and \$3,350,000, respectively.

As compared with June, 1937, there was an increase of \$286,097 or 169.3 p.c. in Nova Scotia, and of \$27,984 or 37.5 p.c. in Saskatchewan. The remaining provinces recorded declines, of which those of \$385,688 or 29.6 p.c. in Quebec, and \$318,433 or 33.5 p.c. in British Columbia were most pronounced.

Increases over July, 1936, were reported in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and British Columbia. The largest actual gain was that of \$519,092 or 23.1 p.c. in Ontario, but that of \$340,397 or 196.8 p.c. in Nova Scotia was proportionately greater. In Quebec and Alberta there were declines of 47.1 p.c. and 13.9 p.c., respectively.

Of the larger cities - Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg and Vancouver - Montreal showed a decrease as compared with June, 1937, and also as compared with July, 1936. In Toronto, Winnipeg and Vancouver the totals were lower than in the preceding month, but higher than in the same month of last year.

Of the other centres, Halifax, New Glasgow, Sydney, Saint John, Quebec, Westmount, Belleville, Fort William, Galt, Kitchener, London, Oshawa, Port Arthur, St. Thomas, Windsor, Riverside, Brandon, St. Boniface, Regina, Saskatoon, Kamloops and North Vancouver showed gains over June, 1937, and also as compared with July, 1936.

CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR FIRST SEVEN MONTHS, 1920-1937.

The following table gives the value of the building authorized by 58 cities during July, and in the first seven months of each year since 1920, as well as index numbers for the latter, based upon the January - July total in 1926 as 100. The average index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials in the first seven months of the years since 1920 are also given, (1926 average = 100).

Year	Value of permits issued in July	Value of permits issued in first seven months	Indexes of value of permits issued in first seven months (1926=100)	Average indexes of wholesale prices of building materials in first seven months (1926 average = 100)
1937	\$5,397,422	\$33,378,744	34.3	95.1
1936	5,029,802	23,352,686	24.0	84.5
1935	4,396,402	29,036,913	29.8	81.8
1934	3,257,470	13,668,847	14.0	82.8
1933	2,180,403	12,496,302	12.7	76.5
1932	4,412,169	28,753,213	29.5	78.1
1931	11,042,609	69,993,717	71.8	83.3
1930	15,824,781	101,238,766	103.9	94.2
1929	22,702,584	147,311,851	151.2	99.2
1928	25,761,956	127,798,943	131.2	96.2
1927	16,369,195	97,211,914	99.8	96.1
1926	18,683,415	97,443,834	100.0	100.8
1925	12,812,603	78,712,320	80.8	103.1
1924	11,681,196	72,355,350	74.3	109.8
1923	13,078,547	86,126,043	88.4	111.7
1922	15,740,810	87,022,484	89.3	108.3
1921	10,965,891	66,737,575	68.5	130.2
1920	13,743,045	75,497,755	77.5	144.2

The aggregate for the first seven months of this year, as already mentioned, was 42.9 p.c. higher than in 1936, also exceeding that for the same period in any other year since 1931. The average index number of wholesale prices of building materials, though rather higher than in any of the years, 1930-1936, was lower than in preceding years since 1920.

The table on page 3 gives the value of the building permits issued by 58 cities during June and July, 1937, and July, 1936; the 35 cities for which records are available since 1910 are marked thus "x".

-3-

Estimated Value of Construction Works as Indicated by Building Permits Issued by 58 Cities.

C i t i e s	July	June	July
	1937	1937	1936
P.E.I.- Charlottetown	\$ 1/	\$ 16,600	\$ 18,035
Nova Scotia	455,087	168,990	114,690
x Halifax	396,170	145,785	96,445
New Glasgow	27,430	8,755	5,375
x Sydney	31,487	14,450	12,870
New Brunswick	63,916	65,321	59,590
Fredericton	4,460	16,875	9,300
x Moncton	1/	15,130	37,685
x Saint John	59,456	33,316	12,605
Quebec	915,794	1,301,482	1,729,766
x Montreal - x Maisonneuve	619,659	931,575	1,182,471
x Quebec	59,535	49,085	32,825
Shawinigan Falls	1/	181,700	5,400
x Sherbrooke	57,700	88,750	40,200
x Three Rivers	87,745	12,022	427,810
x Westmount	91,155	38,350	41,060
Ontario	2,765,134	2,808,576	2,246,042
Belleville	17,700	11,350	6,490
x Brantford	26,874	34,055	24,445
Chatham	10,950	90,210	14,000
x Fort William	36,185	22,470	29,800
Galt	44,009	36,940	6,810
x Guelph	10,840	11,207	17,220
x Hamilton	275,299	279,500	90,550
x Kingston	18,170	14,306	42,715
x Kitchener	97,725	48,568	43,780
x London	87,415	41,910	77,730
Niagara Falls	22,775	113,804	6,405
Oshawa	10,525	5,905	9,650
x Ottawa	125,438	294,495	195,799
Owen Sound	7,450	855	21,782
x Peterborough	26,610	43,559	52,133
x Port Arthur	50,048	38,440	27,413
x Stratford	4,815	6,266	2,715
x St. Catharines	76,865	52,870	261,905
x St. Thomas	5,620	2,004	4,705
Sarnia	13,993	14,630	13,905
Sault Ste. Marie	14,875	39,375	17,690
x Toronto	1,027,580	1,049,582	776,851
York & East York Townships	182,870	415,280	295,190
Welland	13,295	41,173	15,454
x Windsor	504,779	54,585	101,802
Riverside	31,670	22,550	1,425
Woodstock	20,759	22,687	87,678
Manitoba	316,840	357,858	172,800
x Brandon	19,910	3,275	1,600
St. Boniface	84,080	24,533	2,950
x Winnipeg	212,850	330,050	168,250
Saskatchewan	102,629	74,645	35,409
x Moose Jaw	12,229	10,155	13,065
x Regina	74,350	50,275	14,969
x Saskatoon	16,050	14,215	7,375
Alberta	144,741	268,482	168,034
x Calgary	72,251	129,392	59,454
x Edmonton	55,750	111,300	93,875
Lethbridge	15,040	27,375	12,230
Medicine Hat	1,700	415	2,475
British Columbia	633,281	951,714	485,436
Kamloops	8,885	6,045	3,070
Nanaimo	7,096	31,385	14,610
x New Westminster	63,100	38,230	91,450
Prince Rupert	2,075	10,654	235
x Vancouver	514,655	827,955	338,520
North Vancouver	6,430	6,070	3,695
x Victoria	31,040	31,375	33,855
Total 58 Cities	5,397,422	6,013,668	5,029,802
Total x 35 Cities	4,849,355	4,868,502	4,455,948

1/ Report not received.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
GENERAL STATISTICS BRANCH
OTTAWA CANADA

Issued Sept. 16, 1937.

Dominion Statistician: R. H. Coats, LL.D., F.R.S.C., F.S.S.(Hon.)
In Charge Employment Statistics: M. E. K. Roughsedge.

BUILDING PERMITS FOR AUGUST, 1937, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS FOR JULY, 1937,
AND AUGUST, 1936, AND CUMULATIVE FIGURES FOR FIRST EIGHT MONTHS, 1920-1937.

The value of the building permits issued by 58 cities during August, 1937, was less than in the preceding month, but greater than in August of last year; these municipalities authorized building estimated to cost \$4,216,310 during the month under review, as compared with \$5,473,852 in July, 1937, and \$3,673,455 in August, 1936. There was, therefore, a decrease of 23.0 p.c. in the first comparison, but an increase of 14.8 p.c. in the second and more significant comparison.

The value of the building represented by the permits taken out in the first eight months of the present year was \$37,671,484; this was higher than the aggregate of \$27,026,141 reported in the period, January-August, 1936, and was also decidedly higher than in the first eight months of any other year since 1931. However, the cumulative total for this period in each of these years had been very much lower than in earlier years of the record, being also less than the seventeen-year average of \$32,646,241. While wholesale prices of building materials have recently advanced, the index for the first eight months of 1937 was also below the average for the years since 1919.

Some 50 cities furnished detailed statistics showing that they had issued about 440 permits for dwellings estimated to cost over \$1,280,000 and more than 2,300 permits for other buildings valued at approximately \$2,600,000. In addition, there were three engineering projects valued at \$105,950. During July, authority was granted for the erection of some 400 dwellings and 2,000 other buildings, estimated at about \$1,400,000 and \$3,300,000, respectively.

As compared with July, 1937, Prince Edward Island and Alberta reported gains of \$11,370 and \$22,113, respectively. Of the reductions elsewhere indicated, those of \$315,277 or 69.3 p.c. in Nova Scotia, and \$607,358 or 22.0 p.c. in Ontario were greatest.

Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Ontario, Manitoba, Alberta and British Columbia reported higher aggregates of building authorizations than in August of last year; the largest increases were in Ontario and British Columbia, these provinces showing gains of \$347,963 or 19.2 p.c. and \$214,994 or 55.7 p.c., respectively. Of the declines recorded in the remaining provinces, those of \$65,652 or 7.8 p.c. in Quebec and \$54,440 or 37.7 p.c. in Saskatchewan were most marked.

Of the four largest cities, Montreal showed a decrease as compared with July, 1937, and also with August, 1936. The Toronto total in August was practically the same as in July, but it considerably exceeded that for August, 1936. Winnipeg showed improvement in both comparisons, while the Vancouver total was lower than in the preceding month, but higher than in August of last year. Of the other centres, Charlottetown, Sydney, Moncton, Quebec, Sherbrooke, Brantford, Fort William, Owen Sound, Port Arthur, Stratford, Sault Ste. Marie, Welland, Saskatoon, Edmonton, Nanaimo and Victoria recorded gains in both comparisons.

CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR FIRST EIGHT MONTHS, 1920-1937.

The following table gives the value of the building authorized by 58 cities during August, and in the first eight months of each year since 1920, as well as index numbers for the latter, based on the January-August total in 1926 as 100. The average index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials in the first eight months of the years since 1920 are also given, (average 1926=100).

Year	Value of permits issued in August	Value of permits issued in first eight months	Indexes of value of permits issued, first eight months, (1926=100)	Average indexes of wholesale prices of building materials in first eight months, (1926=100)
1937	\$ 4,216,310	\$ 37,671,484	34.5	95.1
1936	3,673,455	27,026,141	24.7	84.6
1935	4,311,968	33,348,881	30.5	81.2
1934	3,764,425	17,433,272	16.0	82.8
1933	1,910,809	14,407,111	13.2	77.0
1932	3,823,251	32,576,464	29.8	77.7
1931	8,201,879	78,194,996	71.6	83.0
1930	14,029,564	115,268,330	105.5	93.4
1929	21,582,221	168,894,072	154.6	99.2
1928	17,448,542	145,247,485	133.0	96.4
1927	29,478,378	126,690,292	116.0	96.2
1926	11,672,599	109,211,942	100.0	100.7
1925	9,511,008	88,223,328	80.8	103.1
1924	9,406,733	81,762,083	74.9	109.0
1923	11,425,031	97,551,074	89.3	111.8
1922	18,158,932	105,181,416	96.3	108.4
1921	10,928,039	77,665,614	71.1	128.6
1920	10,805,846	86,303,601	79.0	143.8

The aggregate for the first eight months of this year was 39.4 p.c. higher than in 1936, also exceeding that for the same period in each of the preceding four years. The average index number of wholesale prices of building materials, though higher than in any of the years, 1930-1936, was lower than in other years since 1920.

The table on page 3 gives the value of building permits issued by 58 cities during July and August, 1937, and August, 1936. The 35 cities for which records are available since 1920 are marked thus "x".

$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & i \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

Estimated Value of Construction Works as Indicated by Building Permits Issued by 58 Cities.

Cities	August 1937	July 1937	August 1936
P.E.I. - Charlottetown	\$ 12,850	\$ 1,430	\$ 8,280
Nova Scotia	139,810	455,087	178,411
x Halifax	66,010	396,170	128,000
New Glasgow	10,650	27,430	440
x Sydney	63,150	31,487	49,971
New Brunswick	34,020	63,916	22,236
Fredericton	675	4,460	6,400
x Moncton	15,525	...	2,375
x Saint John	17,820	59,456	13,461
Quebec	773,827	990,744	839,479
x Montreal - x Maisonneuve	454,707	619,659	695,822
x Quebec	140,195	59,535	66,307
Shawinigan Falls	23,125	74,950	6,325
x Sherbrooke	76,300	57,700	17,300
x Three Rivers	15,550	87,745	9,100
x Westmunt	63,950	91,155	44,625
Ontario	2,157,776	2,765,134	1,809,813
Belleville	7,925	17,700	8,200
x Brantford	27,275	26,874	16,195
Chatham	8,050	10,950	12,150
x Fort William	112,725	36,185	15,350
Galt	43,511	44,009	34,775
x Guelph	5,945	10,840	12,045
x Hamilton	91,793	275,299	119,810
x Kingston	22,525	18,170	29,020
x Kitchener	52,722	97,725	44,036
x London	59,315	87,415	88,315
Niagara Falls	22,605	22,775	17,455
Oshawa	11,510	10,525	27,745
x Ottawa	75,215	135,438	218,381
Owen Sound	8,340	7,450	3,625
x Peterborough	15,465	26,610	23,523
x Port Arthur	67,950	50,048	32,260
x Stratford	9,547	4,815	1,330
x St. Catharines	135,830	76,865	185,954
x St. Thomas	2,145	5,620	475
Sarnia	3,475	13,993	32,845
Sault Ste. Marie	37,833	14,875	27,050
x Toronto	1,011,411	1,027,580	555,014
York & East York Townships	128,200	182,870	203,745
Welland	21,008	13,295	20,316
x Windsor	154,650	504,779	62,565
Riverside	5,760	31,670	1,750
Woodstock	19,046	20,759	15,884
Manitoba	240,340	316,840	154,985
x Brandon	4,585	19,910	4,595
St. Boniface	9,455	84,080	20,140
x Winnipeg	226,300	212,850	130,250
Saskatchewan	89,892	102,629	144,332
x Moose Jaw	5,635	12,229	1,835
x Regina	15,681	74,350	121,122
x Saskatoon	68,576	16,050	21,375
Alberta	166,854	144,741	129,972
x Calgary	57,304	72,251	29,720
x Edmonton	69,250	55,750	54,880
Lethbridge	40,300	15,040	44,412
Medicine Hat	Nil	1,700	960
British Columbia	600,941	633,281	385,947
Kamloops	697	8,885	10,060
Nanaimo	88,016	7,096	7,610
x New Westminster	43,040	63,100	43,600
Prince Rupert	300	2,075	225
x Vancouver	400,035	514,655	261,690
North Vancouver	600	6,430	2,890
x Victoria	68,253	31,040	59,872
Total - 58 Cities	4,216,310	1/5,473,852	3,673,455
Total - x 35 Cities	3,712,379	4,849,355	3,160,173

1/ Includes Charlottetown and Shawinigan Falls received too late for inclusion in July tabulation.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
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OTTAWA - CANADA

Issued Oct. 19, 1937.

Dominion Statistician:	R. H. Coats, LL.D., F.R.S.C., F.S.S. (Hon.)
In Charge Employment Statistics:	M. E. K. Roughsedge.

BUILDING PERMITS FOR SEPTEMBER, 1937, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS FOR AUGUST, 1937,
AND SEPTEMBER, 1936, AND CUMULATIVE FIGURES FOR FIRST NINE MONTHS, 1920-1937.

The value of the building authorized in 58 cities during September stood at \$5,078,882; this was an increase of \$862,572 or 20.5 p.c. over the total of \$4,216,310 reported in August, 1937, and of \$1,421,611 or 38.9 p.c. as compared with September of last year, when the permits granted represented building valued at \$3,657,271.

The value of the building authorized in the first nine months of the present year was \$42,750,366; this greatly exceeded the aggregate of \$30,683,412 recorded in the period January - September, 1936, and was decidedly higher than in the first nine months in any other year since 1931. The cumulative total for the same period in each of the last six years has been very much lower than in any other year for which data are available; while wholesale prices of building materials have recently advanced, the index for the first nine months of 1937 was below the average for the years since 1919.

Some 50 cities furnished detailed statistics for September, showing that they had issued about 350 permits for dwellings estimated to cost approximately \$1,270,000 and more than 1,800 permits for other buildings valued at about \$2,560,000. In addition, one city authorized engineering projects valued at \$58,915. During August, permits were granted for the erection of about 440 dwellings and 2,300 other buildings, estimated to cost approximately \$1,280,000 and \$2,600,000, respectively.

Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and Alberta reported increases in the estimated value of the building authorized as compared with August, 1937, that of \$413,280 or 53.4 p.c. in Quebec being largest. Moderate declines in this comparison were indicated in Prince Edward Island, Saskatchewan and British Columbia.

As compared with September, 1936, there was improvement in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, Alberta and British Columbia. The greatest gain of \$686,570 or 36.8 p.c. was reported in Ontario.

Of the larger cities, Montreal and Toronto showed higher totals of authorized building than in August, and the value in each case was also higher than in September, 1936; in Winnipeg and Vancouver, there was a decline in the first comparison, but an increase over September of last year. Of the other centres, Halifax, Moncton, Saint John, Sherbrooke, Three Rivers, Brantford, Hamilton, Kingston, Kitchener, Oshawa, St. Thomas, York and East York Townships, Welland, Windsor, Riverside, St. Boniface, Moose Jaw, Regina, Edmonton, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat, Kamloops, New Westminster, Prince Rupert and North Vancouver recorded increases as compared with both August, 1937, and September, 1936.

CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR FIRST NINE MONTHS, 1937.

The following table gives the value of the building authorized by 58 cities during September, and in the first nine months of each year since 1920, as well as index numbers for the latter, based upon the total for the corresponding period of 1926 as 100. The average index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials in the period January - September of the years since 1920 are also given, (average 1926=100).

Year	Value of permits issued in September	Value of permits issued in first nine months	Indexes of value of permits issued first nine months (1926=100)	Average indexes of wholesale prices of building materials, first nine months, (average 1926=100)
1937	\$5,078,882	\$42,750,366	35.6	95.0
1936	3,657,271	30,683,412	25.5	84.8
1935	3,672,845	36,680,796	30.5	81.2
1934	2,281,874	19,715,146	16.5	82.8
1933	1,986,903	16,394,014	13.6	77.5
1932	2,449,735	35,026,199	29.1	77.6
1931	10,407,999	88,602,995	73.7	82.7
1930	11,093,020	126,361,350	105.2	92.7
1929	17,117,017	186,011,017	154.8	99.2
1928	20,374,149	165,621,634	137.8	96.7
1927	14,462,243	141,152,535	117.5	96.3
1926	11,047,507	120,163,936	100.0	100.7
1925	10,140,853	98,364,181	81.9	103.1
1924	15,055,250	96,817,333	80.6	108.2
1923	10,768,898	108,319,972	90.1	111.8
1922	11,597,034	116,778,450	97.2	108.5
1921	10,907,828	88,573,442	73.7	126.8
1920	9,842,677	96,146,278	80.0	144.2

The aggregate for the first nine months of this year was higher by 39.3 p.c. than in 1936, and was also substantially higher than in any of the preceding four years. The average index number of wholesale prices of building materials, though higher than in any of the years, 1930-1936, was lower than in other years since 1920.

The table on page 3 gives the value of the building permits issued by 58 cities during August and September, 1937, and September, 1936. The 35 cities for which data are available since 1910 are marked thus "x".

-3-
Estimated Value of Construction Works as Indicated by Building Permits Issued by 58 Cities.

C i t i e s	September 1937	August 1937	September 1936
P.E.I. - Charlottetown	8,400	12,850	33,850
Nova Scotia	148,130	139,810	142,361
x Halifax	115,610	66,010	101,936
New Glasgow	7,920	10,650	2,075
x Sydney	24,600	63,150	38,350
New Brunswick	45,548	34,020	29,150
Fredericton	6,080	675	12,575
x Moncton	15,830	15,525	5,995
x Saint John	23,638	17,820	10,530
Quebec	1,187,107	773,827	887,327
x Montreal - x Maisonneuve	939,345	454,707	773,917
x Quebec	16,032	140,195	20,640
Shawinigan Falls	13,200	23,125	16,270
x Sherbrooke	149,500	76,300	31,700
x Three Rivers	22,750	15,550	18,050
x Westmount	26,280	63,950	26,750
Ontario	2,554,259	2,157,776	1,867,689
Belleville	1,475	7,925	3,800
x Brantford	49,715	27,275	6,330
Chatham	7,515	8,050	25,480
x Fort William	50,400	112,725	39,550
Galt	6,820	43,511	30,492
x Guelph	14,190	5,945	20,640
x Hamilton	212,967	91,793	80,700
x Kingston	40,917	22,525	16,900
x Kitchener	255,333	52,722	88,382
x London	50,870	59,315	102,885
Niagara Falls	13,305	22,605	18,645
Oshawa	30,000	11,510	8,977
x Ottawa	47,395	75,215	158,714
Owen Sound	5,525	8,340	12,260
x Peterborough	24,035	15,465	31,240
x Port Arthur	46,704	63,950	17,370
x Stratford	9,360	9,547	7,560
x St. Catharines	19,528	135,830	16,529
x St. Thomas	10,882	2,145	8,375
Sarnia	7,585	3,475	16,266
Sault Ste. Marie	31,750	37,833	29,465
x Toronto	1,013,192	1,011,411	835,858
York & East York Townships	218,199	128,200	172,250
Welland	47,292	21,008	11,925
x Windsor	319,360	154,650	70,705
Riverside	7,200	5,760	2,275
Woodstock	12,745	19,046	34,136
Manitoba	291,465	240,340	154,925
x Brandon	5,375	4,585	29,950
St. Boniface	140,590	9,455	15,275
x Winnipeg	145,500	226,300	109,700
Saskatchewan	66,969	89,892	71,538
x Moose Jaw	17,750	5,635	4,240
x Regina	42,969	15,681	37,273
x Saskatoon	6,250	68,576	30,025
Alberta	201,762	166,854	124,557
x Calgary	53,922	57,304	44,900
x Edmonton	80,290	69,250	64,200
Lethbridge	52,940	40,300	14,542
Medicine Hat	14,610	Nil	915
British Columbia	575,242	600,941	345,874
Kamloops	5,060	697	1,035
Nanaimo	17,650	88,016	17,323
x New Westminster	85,450	43,040	16,200
Prince Rupert	4,895	300	1,300
x Vancouver	390,535	400,035	272,370
North Vancouver	4,425	600	850
x Victoria	67,227	68,253	36,796
Total .. 58 Cities	5,078,882	4,216,310	3,657,271
Total .. x 35 Cities	4,413,701	3,712,379	3,175,290

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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
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Dominion Statistician: R. H. Coats, LL.D., F.R.S.C., F.S.S.(Hon.)
In Charge Employment Statistics: M. E. K. Roughsedge.

BUILDING PERMITS REPORT FOR DECEMBER, 1937, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS FOR
NOVEMBER, 1937, AND DECEMBER, 1936, AND TOTALS FOR THE YEARS, 1920-1937.

The building permits issued by 58 cities in December, 1937, represented construction work valued at \$3,543,073, as compared with \$4,956,139 in November, 1937, and \$3,282,166 in December, 1936. There was, therefore, a decrease of \$1,413,066 or 28.5 p.c. in December as compared with the preceding month, but an increase of \$260,907 or 7.9 p.c. in the more significant comparison with the same month in 1936.

The value of the building permits taken out during 1937 was \$55,634,610; this was 34.6 p.c. higher than the aggregate of \$41,325,693 reported in 1936, and was also decidedly higher than in any other year since 1931. The cumulative total in each of the last six years has been very much lower than in earlier years of the record; while the wholesale prices of building materials have recently advanced, the preliminary index for 1937 was below the average for the years since 1919.

A review of building permits granted in 1937, based on revised figures, will be issued each month.

Detailed statements for December were received from some 50 cities, showing that they had issued some 75 permits for dwellings valued at almost \$650,000 and 900 permits for other buildings at an estimated cost of more than \$2,560,000. There was also one permit taken out for engineering work at a cost of \$22,000. During November, the construction of some 300 dwellings and 1,800 other building was authorized; these were estimated to cost approximately \$1,158,000 and \$3,495,000, respectively.

As compared with the preceding month, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick and Alberta reported small increases in the value of the building authorized. Of the declines indicated in the remaining provinces, those of \$734,487 or 28.1 p.c. in Ontario and \$393,353 or 56.9 p.c. in British Columbia were most pronounced.

Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and Alberta recorded increases as compared with December, 1936, in the value of the building represented by the permits granted. In this comparison, Quebec and Ontario reported the greatest gains of \$112,564 or 12.5 p.c., and \$141,573 or 8.1 p.c., respectively.

Of the four largest cities, Montreal registered an increase as compared with either November, 1937, or December, 1936, while Toronto, Winnipeg and Vancouver reported declines as compared with the preceding month, but increases over the same month in 1936. Of the other centres, Charlottetown, Fredericton, Westmount, Brantford, Fort William, Kingston, London, Oshawa, Ottawa, Sault Ste. Marie, Brandon, Regina, Calgary, Edmonton and Kamloops recorded advances as compared with November, 1937, and also as compared with December, 1936.

CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR 1937.

The following table shows the value of the building authorized by 58 cities during the Decembers of the years since 1920, and also for the completed years; the 1937 figures are unrevised, while for preceding years the statistics are revised. (a revised statement for 1937 will be issued next month). Index numbers,

based upon the total value of the building authorized by these cities during 1926 as 100, are given below, as are the average index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials in the years 1920-37:-

Year	Value of permits issued in December	Value of permits issued in twelve months	Indexes of value of permits issued in twelve months (1926=100)	Average indexes of wholesale prices of building materials, twelve months (1926=100)
1937	\$ 3,543,073	\$ 55,634,610	35.6	94.3
1936	3,282,166	41,325,693	26.4	85.3
1935	2,401,856	46,560,623	29.8	82.2
1934	2,521,820	27,457,524	17.6	82.6
1933	1,983,292	21,776,496	13.9	78.3
1932	1,569,255	42,319,397	27.1	77.2
1931	7,895,106	112,222,845	71.8	81.9
1930	15,440,281	166,379,325	106.4	90.9
1929	14,688,682	234,944,549	150.2	99.0
1928	16,095,160	219,105,715	140.1	97.1
1927	11,755,566	184,613,742	118.0	96.1
1926	11,508,818	156,386,607	100.0	100.0
1925	7,363,777	125,029,367	79.9	102.9
1924	6,463,319	126,583,148	80.9	106.6
1923	6,974,256	133,521,621	85.4	111.8
1922	9,517,402	148,215,407	94.8	108.7
1921	5,537,330	116,794,414	74.7	122.7
1920	4,844,354	117,019,622	74.8	144.0

The unrevised statistics for 1937 indicate that last year's aggregate was 34.6 p.c. higher than in 1936, and it was also higher than in any of the preceding four years. With these exceptions, the 1937 total was lower than in any other year since 1919. The index number of wholesale prices of building materials, though higher than in any of the years, 1930-1936, was lower than in other years since 1919.

The accompanying table gives the value of the building permits issued by 58 cities in November and December, 1937, and December, 1936. The 35 centres for which records are available since 1910 are marked thus "x".

Estimated Value of Construction Works as Indicated by Building Permits Issued by 58 Cities

Cities	December 1937	November 1937	December 1936
P. E. I. - Charlottetown	\$ 3,100	\$ 2,000	Nil
Nova Scotia	106,562	193,485 ^{1/}	80,310
x Halifax	82,215	141,255	73,660
New Glasgow	585	2,780	4,500
x Sydney	23,762	49,450 ^{1/}	2,150
New Brunswick	62,545	54,881	10,775
Fredericton	48,800	850	4,000
x Moncton	1,675	33,896	1,090
x Saint John	12,070	20,135	5,685
Quebec	1,010,367	1,086,751	897,803
x Montreal - x Maisonneuve	870,928	812,401	843,590
x Quebec	26,639	83,715	1,135
Shawinigan Falls	5,000	37,050	12,943
x Sherbrooke	54,800	63,300	5,500
x Three Rivers	11,750	85,185	16,835
x Westmount	41,250	5,100	17,800
Ontario	1,881,504	2,615,991	1,739,931
Belleville	2,050	7,950	Nil
x Brantford	13,140	11,136	10,755
Chatham	1,000	9,300	32,600
x Fort William	22,900	18,550	1,800
Galt	15,455	93,216	1,510
x Guelph	2,340	8,990	285
x Hamilton	87,817	89,477	269,251
x Kingston	19,390	11,987	18,685
x Kitchener	14,795	47,789	16,095
x London	96,240	41,525	19,345
Niagara Falls	200	1,550	3,305
Oshawa	23,235	2,450	1,435
x Ottawa	243,500	73,290	47,400
Owen Sound	750	690	83,125
x Peterborough	935	4,133	3,585
x Port Arthur	1,015	22,755	8,385
x Stratford	1,180	5,430	1,843
x St. Catharines	38,280	41,960	37,465
x St. Thomas	1,400	1,300	11,500
Sarnia	28,805	40,650	5,830
Sault Ste. Marie	29,500	11,090	8,590
x Toronto	1,111,196	1,824,737	988,520
York & East York Townships	64,621	115,310	128,065
Welland	700	45,310	981
x Windsor	46,127	55,655	26,885
Riverside	5,700	10,000	2,275
Woodstock	9,233	19,761	10,416
Manitoba	52,000	126,027	48,350
x Brandon	800	Nil	Nil
St. Boniface	1,000	1,877	20,100
x Winnipeg	50,200	124,150	28,250
Saskatchewan	30,841	97,275	69,050
x Moose Jaw	2,735	84,130	9,250
x Regina	24,106	10,845	18,525
x Saskatoon	4,000	2,300	41,275
Alberta	97,779	87,999	71,444
x Calgary	21,987	18,601	9,526
x Edmonton	73,675	21,910	40,265
Lethbridge	2,117	10,488	21,653
Medicine Hat	Nil	37,000	Nil
British Columbia	298,375	691,730	364,503
Kamloops	9,050	3,625	265
Nanaimo	50	25,895	47,550
x New Westminster	22,050	51,875	17,700
Prince Rupert	1,350	18,420	48,765
x Vancouver	235,730	487,900	212,685
North Vancouver	1,525	8,615	5,070
x Victoria	28,620	95,400	32,468
Total - 58 Cities	3,543,073	4,956,139 ^{1/}	3,282,166
Total - x35 Cities	3,289,247	4,450,262 ^{1/}	2,839,188

^{1/} Including Sydney received too late for November tabulation.

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In Charge Employment Statistics: M. E. K. Roughsedge.

BUILDING PERMITS REPORTS FOR JANUARY, 1938, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS
FOR DECEMBER, 1937, AND JANUARY, 1937.

The value of the building authorized by 58 cities in January, 1938, showed a seasonal decline as compared with the preceding month, but the total was somewhat higher than in January, 1937; the co-operating municipalities issued permits for building work estimated to cost \$1,846,101, compared with \$3,556,977 in December, 1937, and \$1,721,867 in January of last year. There was, therefore, a reduction of 48.1 p.c. in the first comparison, but an increase of 7.2 p.c. in the second and more significant comparison.

Some 50 centres furnished detailed statements, showing that they had granted about 175 permits for dwellings valued at over \$530,000, and almost 700 permits for other buildings estimated to cost approximately \$1,171,000. In December, the erection of some 75 dwellings and 900 other buildings was authorized, at an estimated expenditure of \$650,000 and \$2,560,000, respectively.

Prince Edward Island and British Columbia reported increases in the value of the building represented by the permits taken out in January as compared with December, 1937, there being a gain of \$2,000 in the former and of \$237,889, or 76.3 p.c. in the latter province. Of the declines elsewhere recorded, the most marked were those of \$692,257, or 68.5 p.c. in Quebec, and \$1,053,968 or 56.0 p.c. in Ontario.

As compared with January, 1937, Manitoba and British Columbia showed increases of \$20,710, or 78.7 p.c., and \$304,387, or 119.7 p.c., respectively. In the other provinces, the value of the building work authorized was lower, the reduction of \$43,065 or 68.0 p.c. in Nova Scotia being proportionately greatest.

In Montreal, there was a decrease in the value of the building undertaken as compared with the preceding month, and also as compared with the same month of last year; in Toronto and Winnipeg there were declines in the former, but increases in the latter comparison, while Vancouver showed gains in both comparisons. The following cities reported increases over December and also as compared with January of last year:— New Glasgow, Moncton, Quebec, Westmount, Chatham, Hamilton, Owen Sound, Peterborough, Port Arthur, St. Thomas, Windsor, St. Boniface, Saskatoon, Lethbridge, New Westminster, Prince Rupert and North Vancouver.

RECORD FOR JANUARY IN THE YEARS, 1920-1938.

The following table gives the value of the building authorized by 58 cities during January of each year since 1920. Index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials in January of the same years are also given, (1926=100).

Year	Value of permits issued in January	Indexes of value of permits issued in January (1926=100)	Indexes of wholesale prices of building materials in January (1926 average = 100)
1938	\$ 1,846,101	39.1	91.6
1937	1,721,867	36.5	89.1
1936	1,302,758	27.6	83.6
1935	882,878	18.7	81.6
1934	707,812	15.0	82.1
1933	1,185,961	25.1	75.7
1932	2,761,929	58.5	79.4
1931	8,401,456	178.0	84.0
1930	7,217,397	152.9	97.4
1929	8,416,880	178.3	98.0
1928	7,716,587	163.5	95.2
1927	5,676,537	120.3	96.8
1926	4,719,534	100.0	102.3
1925	5,447,270	115.4	101.9
1924	4,460,579	94.5	112.4
1923	4,139,498	87.7	109.8
1922	3,326,537	70.5	109.4
1921	2,595,564	55.0	143.0
1920	4,017,024	85.1	134.5

The 1938 figure was higher by 7.2 p.c. than in January, 1937, and was also higher than in 1936, 1935, 1934 and 1933, but with these exceptions was lower than in any other year since 1920. The wholesale costs of building materials have recently been higher than in the same months of the last few years, although they continue lower than in the period, 1930-1920.

The table on page 3 gives the value of the building permits issued by 58 cities in January, 1938, and December and January, 1937. The statistics for all but the present year are based on revised statements furnished by the civic officials after the close of the year. The 35 cities for which statistics are available since 1910 are indicated thus "x".

Estimated Value of Construction Work as Indicated by Building Permits Issued by 58 Cities.

C i t i e s	January	December	January
	1938	1937	1937
P.E.I.- Charlottetown	\$ 5,100	\$ 3,100	\$ 11,000
Nova Scotia	24,305	106,562	67,370
x Halifax	20,425	82,215	63,470
New Glasgow	2,000	585	Nil
x Sydney	1,880	23,762	3,900
New Brunswick	24,625	62,545	32,975
Fredericton	17,000	48,800	25,000
x Moncton	3,050	1,675	Nil
x Saint John	4,575	12,070	7,975
Quebec	318,110	1,010,367	367,145
x Montreal - x Maisonneuve	215,065	870,928	305,250
x Quebec	38,420	26,639	14,425
Shawinigan Falls	750	5,000	Nil
x Sherbrooke	19,300	54,800	7,100
x Three Rivers	825	11,750	10,375
x Westmount	43,750	41,250	29,995
Ontario	828,186	1,882,154	892,730
Belleville	500	2,050	350
x Brantford	6,500	13,140	30,250
Chatham	7,150	1,000	5,850
x Fort William	18,700	22,900	500
Galt	2,165	15,455	570
x Guelph	1,600	2,340	4,475
x Hamilton	105,687	87,817	68,972
x Kingston	14,454	19,390	3,490
x Kitchener	26,470	14,795	44,971
x London	21,025	96,245	119,550
Niagara Falls	200	200	6,200
Oshawa	1,800	23,235	Nil
x Ottawa	45,875	243,500	28,150
Owen Sound	1,000	750	550
x Peterborough	10,130	935	2,131
x Port Arthur	3,940	1,015	1,250
x Stratford	500	1,180	2,425
x St. Catharines	3,500	38,280	15,525
x St. Thomas	7,600	1,400	Nil
Sarnia	18,550	28,805	4,765
Sault Ste. Marie	2,500	30,145	1,240
x Toronto	253,800	1,111,196	208,278
York & East York Townships	11,500	64,621	270,675
Welland	900	700	2,886
x Windsor	255,800	46,127	68,020
Riverside	(4,150)	5,700	Nil
Woodstock	2,190	9,233	1,657
Manitoba	47,010	52,000	26,300
x Brandon	Nil	800	1,000
St. Boniface	3,310	1,000	Nil
x Winnipeg	43,700	50,200	25,300
Saskatchewan	14,925	30,841	31,800
x Moose Jaw	Nil	2,735	Nil
x Regina	7,525	24,106	31,300
x Saskatoon	7,400	4,000	500
Alberta	34,106	97,563	47,200
x Calgary	7,111	21,771	35,650
x Edmonton	21,225	73,675	8,250
Lethbridge	5,770	2,117	3,300
Medicine Hat	Nil	Nil	Nil
British Columbia	549,734	311,845	245,347
Kamloops	150	9,050	20
Nanaimo	75	50	Nil
x New Westminster	34,650	22,050	4,800
Prince Rupert	127,360	1,350	1,810
x Vancouver	344,205	235,730	159,595
North Vancouver	7,125	1,525	800
x Victoria	36,169	42,090	78,322
Total - 58 Cities	1,846,101	3,556,977	1,721,867
Total - x 35 cities	1,624,856	3,302,506	1,385,194

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BUILDING PERMITS REPORTS FOR FEBRUARY, 1938, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS
FOR JANUARY, 1938, AND FEBRUARY, 1937.

The value of the building represented by the permits issued by 58 cities stood at \$2,361,957 in February, 1938; this was an increase of \$515,856 or 27.9 p.c. over the total of \$1,846,101 for the preceding month, and of \$223,071 or 10.4 p.c. in the more significant comparison with February of last year, when the authorized building in these cities was valued at \$2,138,886.

Some 50 cities furnished detailed statistics, showing that they had granted about 125 permits for dwellings valued at over \$700,000, and more than 1,000 permits for other buildings, estimated to cost in excess of \$1,600,000. In January, authority was given for the erection of some 175 dwellings and 700 other buildings, whose value was estimated at approximately \$530,000 and \$1,171,000, respectively.

Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, Alberta and British Columbia reported increases in the value of the building represented by the permits issued as compared with January, 1938; the greatest gain, of \$259,970 or 31.4 p.c., took place in Ontario, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick and Saskatchewan showed small declines in this comparison.

As compared with February, 1937, Ontario, Manitoba, Alberta and British Columbia recorded increases, that of \$394,625 or 156.2 p.c. in British Columbia being most noteworthy. The largest decrease in this comparison was that of \$141,363 or 25.8 p.c. in Quebec.

Of the four largest cities, Winnipeg and Vancouver reported increases in the value of the building authorized as compared with either January, 1938, or February, 1937, while Montreal and Toronto each showed a gain over the preceding month, but a loss as compared with the same month of last year.

Of the other centres, Sydney, Quebec, Shawinigan Falls, Sherbrooke, Belleville, Chatham, Hamilton, Ottawa, Owen Sound, Woodstock, Edmonton, Lethbridge, Kamloops, Nanaimo, New Westminster, North Vancouver and Victoria reported improvement over January, 1938, and also as compared with February, 1937.

CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR FIRST TWO MONTHS, 1938.

The following table gives the value of the building authorized by 58 cities during February, and in the first two months of each year since 1920, as well as index numbers for the latter, based upon the total for 1926 as 100. The average index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials in January and February of the same years are also given, (1926=100).

Year	Value of permits issued in February	Value of permits issued in first two months	Indexes of value of permits issued in first two months (1926=100)	Average indexes of wholesale prices of building materials in first two months, (1926=100)
1938	\$ 2,361,957	\$ 4,208,058	35.5	91.5
1937	2,138,886	3,860,753	32.6	90.1
1936	1,921,176	3,223,934	27.2	83.9
1935	3,401,637	4,484,515	37.8	81.8
1934	894,102	1,601,914	13.5	82.2
1933	925,894	2,111,856	17.8	75.2
1932	2,845,271	6,056,283	51.1	79.4
1931	6,395,659	14,797,115	124.8	83.8
1930	8,919,078	16,136,475	136.1	96.8
1929	10,465,330	18,882,210	159.2	99.6
1928	10,318,338	18,034,925	152.1	96.4
1927	7,638,176	13,314,713	112.3	97.1
1926	7,139,549	11,859,083	100.0	102.4
1925	5,902,118	11,349,388	95.7	103.2
1924	4,093,800	8,554,379	72.1	112.3
1923	5,679,671	9,819,169	82.8	110.1
1922	4,738,105	8,064,642	68.0	108.3
1921	3,683,359	6,278,923	52.9	140.5
1920	6,156,287	10,173,311	85.8	137.5

The aggregate for the first two months of 1938, was 10.9 p.c. higher than in 1937, being also greater than in January-February in 1936, 1934 or 1933; it was, however, rather lower than in 1935. The total for these months in each of the last seven years has been lower than in other years for which statistics for the 58 cities are available. The index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials have recently shown a moderately upward movement, but continue lower than in the years prior to 1931.

The table on page 3 gives the value of the building permits issued by 58 cities in January and February, 1938, and February, 1937. The 35 cities for which statistics are available since 1910 are marked thus "x".

Estimated Value of Construction Work as Indicated by Building Permits Issued by 58 Cities.

C i t i e s	February	January	February
	1938	1938	1937
P.E.I. - Charlottetown	\$ 3,000	\$ 5,100	\$ 14,600
Nova Scotia	69,515	24,305	124,830
x Halifax	66,110	20,425	124,830
New Glasgow	225	2,000	Nil
x Sydney	3,180	1,880	Nil
New Brunswick	20,951	24,625	29,910
Fredericton	900	17,000	Nil
x Moncton	Nil	3,050	5,275
x Saint John	20,051	4,575	24,635
Quebec	406,720	318,110	548,083
x Montreal - x Maisonneuve	297,455	215,065	420,508
x Quebec	43,630	38,420	41,360
Shawinigan Falls	5,200	750	2,545
x Sherbrooke	25,000	19,300	18,600
x Three Rivers	13,935	825	30,380
x Westmount	21,500	43,750	34,690
Ontario	1,088,156	828,186	1,051,766
Belleville	5,900	500	2,240
x Brantford	2,200	6,500	11,284
Chatham	8,900	7,150	4,100
x Fort William	3,000	18,700	32,000
Galt	650	2,165	2,295
x Guelph	3,000	1,600	14,970
x Hamilton	505,543	105,687	36,679
x Kingston	10,450	14,454	Nil
x Kitchener	10,380	26,470	10,630
x London	7,865	21,025	74,800
Niagara Falls	4,382	200	8,600
Oshawa	Nil	1,800	300
x Ottawa	109,400	45,875	36,650
Owen Sound	9,190	1,000	1,750
x Peterborough	6,600	10,130	13,725
x Port Arthur	3,740	3,940	1,135
x Stratford	100	500	22,620
x St. Catharines	4,250	3,500	38,703
x St. Thomas	4,350	7,600	2,550
Sarnia	9,115	18,550	6,515
Sault Ste. Marie	5,250	2,500	9,200
x Toronto	289,940	253,800	616,281
York & East York Townships	45,370	11,500	47,045
Welland	1,250	900	7,384
x Windsor	32,731	255,800	50,010
Riverside	900	4,150	300
Woodstock	3,700	2,190	Nil
Manitoba	62,675	47,010	41,350
x Brandon	Nil	Nil	3,000
St. Boniface	1,175	3,310	4,000
x Winnipeg	61,500	43,700	34,350
Saskatchewan	11,700	14,925	25,785
x Moose Jaw	4,500	Nil	20,000
x Regina	5,450	7,525	3,285
x Saskatoon	1,750	7,400	2,500
Alberta	52,036	34,106	49,983
x Calgary	14,875	7,111	42,268
x Edmonton	24,660	21,225	6,845
Lethbridge	12,501	5,770	770
Medicine Hat	Nil	Nil	100
British Columbia	647,204	549,734	252,579
Kamloops	4,460	150	1,000
Nanaimo	11,073	75	2,025
x New Westminster	34,950	34,650	13,100
Prince Rupert	4,075	127,360	1,640
x Vancouver	434,290	344,205	202,545
North Vancouver	8,225	7,125	2,780
x Victoria	150,131	36,169	29,489
Total - 58 Cities	2,361,957	1,846,101	2,138,886
Total - x 35 Cities	2,216,516	1,624,856	2,019,697

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BUILDING PERMITS FOR AUGUST, 1938, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS FOR JULY, 1938,
AND AUGUST, 1937, AND CUMULATIVE FIGURES FOR FIRST EIGHT MONTHS, 1920-1938.

The value of the building permits issued by 58 cities during August, 1938, was less than in the preceding month, but greater than in August of last year; during the month under review, these municipalities authorized building estimated to cost \$5,814,330 as compared with \$6,230,254 in July, 1938, and \$4,262,966 in August, 1937. There was therefore a decrease of 6.7 p.c. in the first comparison, but an increase of 12.9 p.c. in the second and more significant comparison.

The value of the building represented by the permits taken out in the first eight months of the present year was \$37,825,791; this total showed little difference from that of \$37,849,203 reported in the period, January-August, 1937, while the cumulative total in both 1938 and 1937 was decidedly higher than in the first eight months of any other year since 1931. However, the estimated cost of the construction work undertaken in each of these years has been very much lower than in earlier years of the record, being also below the eighteen-year average of \$80,157,517. The wholesale prices of building materials have recently been lower than in the same months of 1937, although they continue higher than in any of the years, 1931-1936.

Some 50 cities furnished detailed statistics showing that they had issued over 500 permits for dwellings estimated to cost about \$1,480,000 and more than 2,100 permits for other buildings valued at approximately \$3,760,000. In addition, there was one engineering project valued at \$45,000. During July, authority was granted for the erection of some 600 dwellings and 2,400 other buildings, estimated at about \$2,076,000 and \$3,961,000, respectively.

As compared with July, 1938, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario and Alberta reported gains, that of \$223,114 or 21.2 p.c. in Quebec and \$440,734 or 18.4 p.c. in Ontario being most pronounced. Of the reductions elsewhere indicated, those of \$222,025 or 49.1 p.c. in Manitoba, and \$849,446 or 49.2 p.c. in British Columbia were greatest.

Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Alberta and British Columbia reported higher aggregates of building authorizations than in August of last year; the greatest increase was in Quebec, where there was a gain of \$503,712 or 65.1 p.c. Of the declines recorded in the remaining provinces, that of \$40,676 or 45.2 p.c. in Saskatchewan was most marked.

Of the four largest cities, Montreal showed an increase as compared with July, 1938, and also with August, 1937. The Toronto total was higher in August than in July, but it declined considerably from that of August, 1937. Winnipeg showed reductions in both comparisons, while the Vancouver aggregate was lower than in the preceding month, but higher than in August of last year. Of the other centres, Charlottetown, Halifax, Fredericton, Moncton, Quebec, Belleville, Brantford, Hamilton, London, Ottawa, Owen Sound, Port Arthur, St. Thomas, Sault Ste. Marie, York & East York Townships, Welland, Riverside, Calgary, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat, New Westminster, Prince Rupert and Victoria recorded gains in both comparisons.

CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR FIRST EIGHT MONTHS, 1920-1938.

The following table gives the value of the building authorized by 58 cities during August, and in the first eight months of each year since 1920, as well as index numbers for the latter, based on the January-August total in 1926 as 100. The average index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials in the first eight months of the years since 1920 are also given, (average 1926=100).

Year	Value of permits issued in August	Value of permits issued in first eight months	Indexes of value of permits issued in first eight months (1926=100)	Average indexes of wholesale prices of building materials in first eight months (1926=100)
1938	\$ 5,814,330	37,825,791	34.6	90.2
1937	4,202,936	37,849,203	34.7	95.4
1936	3,673,455	27,026,141	24.7	84.6
1935	4,311,968	33,348,881	30.5	81.2
1934	3,764,425	17,433,272	16.0	82.8
1933	1,910,809	14,407,111	13.2	77.0
1932	3,823,251	32,576,464	29.8	77.7
1931	8,201,879	78,194,996	71.6	83.0
1930	14,029,564	115,268,330	105.5	93.4
1929	21,582,221	168,894,072	154.6	99.2
1928	17,448,542	145,247,485	133.0	96.4
1927	29,478,378	126,690,292	116.0	96.2
1926	11,672,599	109,211,942	100.0	100.7
1925	9,511,008	88,223,328	80.8	103.1
1924	9,406,733	81,762,083	74.9	109.0
1923	11,425,031	97,551,074	89.3	111.8
1922	18,158,932	105,181,416	96.3	108.4
1921	10,928,039	77,665,614	71.1	128.6
1920	10,805,846	86,303,601	79.0	143.8

The aggregate for the first eight months of this year, as already stated, was practically the same as in 1937, but exceeded that for the same period in each of the preceding five years. While the index of wholesale prices of building materials was lower than in 1937, it was higher than in any of the years, 1931-1936, although it was lower than in earlier years since 1919.

The table on page 3 gives the value of building permits issued by 58 cities during July and August, 1938, and August, 1937. The 35 cities for which records are available since 1920 are marked thus "x".

Estimated Value of Construction Work as Indicated by Building Permits Issued by 58 cities.

C i t i e s	August	July	August
	1938	1938	1937
	\$	\$	\$
P.E.I.- Charlottetown	14,950	10,250	12,850
Nova Scotia	166,696	253,097	139,810
x Halifax	125,502	58,792	66,010
New Glasgow	5,190	7,590	10,650
x Sydney	36,004	186,715	63,150
New Brunswick	90,943	58,517	34,420
Fredericton	10,125	3,200	675
x Moncton	64,470	26,780	15,925
x Saint John	16,348	28,537	17,820
Quebec	1,277,914	1,054,800	774,202
x Montreal - x Maisonneuve	984,719	712,167	454,707
x Quebec	209,325	103,452	140,195
Shawinigan Falls	1,175	30,425	23,125
x Sherbrooke	37,100	149,500	76,300
x Three Rivers	23,625	29,420	15,925
x Westmount	21,970	29,836	63,950
Ontario	2,832,433	2,391,699	2,193,187
Belleville	12,350	6,100	7,925
x Brantford	32,325	16,425	27,275
Chatham	79,500	173,552	8,050
x Fort William	33,240	40,775	112,725
Galt	33,875	40,479	43,511
x Guelph	8,511	14,095	6,125
x Hamilton	144,007	123,946	91,793
x Kingston	47,958	53,430	32,676
x Kitchener	55,389	84,571	52,722
x London	65,425	42,705	59,315
Niagara Falls	3,870	5,672	22,605
Oshawa	10,780	9,480	11,510
x Ottawa	689,905	407,595	81,215
Owen Sound	88,298	11,635	8,340
x Peterborough	32,173	77,383	15,465
x Port Arthur	104,516	60,432	63,950
x Stratford	6,766	4,671	9,547
x St. Catharines	109,855	35,370	135,830
x St. Thomas	14,552	13,266	1,145
Sarnia	5,960	23,710	3,475
Sault Ste. Marie	72,075	31,650	37,833
x Toronto	863,340	770,779	1,031,411
York & East York Townships	211,970	172,015	128,280
Welland	22,461	11,438	21,008
x Windsor	48,508	147,118	154,650
Riverside	25,350	1,175	5,760
Woodstock	9,474	12,232	19,046
Manitoba	230,270	452,295	240,340
x Brandon	3,255	3,950	4,585
St. Boniface	25,215	94,395	9,455
x Winnipeg	201,800	353,950	226,300
Saskatchewan	49,216	58,098	89,892
x Moose Jaw	1,969	3,145	5,635
x Regina	15,297	20,793	15,681
x Saskatoon	31,950	34,160	68,576
Alberta	273,429	223,573	163,854
x Calgary	66,134	35,713	54,304
x Edmonton	163,375	168,555	69,250
Lethbridge	42,950	19,305	40,300
Medicine Hat	970	Nil	Nil
British Columbia	878,479	1,727,925	614,411
Kamloops	425	2,520	697
Nanaimo	Nil	20,572	88,016
x New Westminster	96,440	74,577	43,040
Prince Rupert	3,450	3,200	300
x Vancouver	687,120	1,566,800	400,035
North Vancouver	3,615	5,500	600
x Victoria	87,429	54,756	81,723
total - 58 Cities	5,814,330	6,230,254	4,262,966
total - x 35 Cities	5,130,302	5,534,159	3,758,955

Published by Authority of Hon. W. D. Euler, M.P., Minister of Trade and Commerce

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
GENERAL STATISTICS BRANCH
OTTAWA - CANADA.

Issued Jan. 17, 1939.

Dominion Statistician:	R. H. Coats, LL.D., F.R.S.C., F.S.S. (Hon.)
In Charge Employment Statistics:	M. E. K. Roughsedge.

BUILDING PERMITS REPORT FOR DECEMBER, 1938, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS FOR
NOVEMBER, 1938, AND DECEMBER, 1937, AND TOTALS FOR THE YEARS, 1920-1938.

The building permits issued by 58 cities in December, 1938, represented construction work valued at \$3,471,555, as compared with \$4,687,296 in November, 1938, and \$3,556,977 in December, 1937. There was therefore a decline of \$1,215,741 or 25.9 p.c. in December as compared with the preceding month, while there was also a slight decrease of \$85,422 or 2.4 p.c. in comparison with the same month in 1937.

The value of the building permits taken out during 1938 was \$60,855,610; this exceeded by \$5,010,611 the aggregate of \$55,844,999 reported in 1937, and was also decidedly higher than in any other year since 1931. The cumulative total in each of the last seven years has, however, been decidedly below that for any earlier year of the record; the wholesale prices of building materials have recently been lower than in the same period of 1937, although they continue higher than in any of the years, 1931-1936.

A review of building permits granted in 1938, based on revised figures, will be issued next month.

Detailed statements for December were received from some 50 cities, showing that they had issued some 230 permits for dwellings valued at more than \$1,000,000, and 1,000 permits for other buildings at an estimated cost of more than \$2,200,000. There were also three permits taken out for engineering work at a cost of \$35,419. During November, the construction of some 400 dwellings and 1,800 other buildings was authorized; these were estimated to cost approximately \$1,170,000 and \$3,000,000, respectively.

Each of the provinces reported a decrease in the value of the building authorized as compared with the preceding month; that of \$283,760 or 75.6 p.c. in Nova Scotia was most pronounced.

The value of the building represented by the permits taken out in Quebec and Manitoba was higher in December, 1938, than in the same month of 1937, those provinces showing increases of \$147,151 or 14.6 p.c. and \$82,940 or 159.5 p.c., respectively, in that comparison. The declines elsewhere recorded were comparatively small, that of \$153,719 or 8.2 p.c. in Ontario being the largest.

Of the four largest cities, Montreal and Winnipeg indicated decreases as compared with November, 1938, but increases over December, 1937, while Toronto and Vancouver reported declines in both comparisons. Of the other centres, Three Rivers, Brantford, Chatham, Kingston, Niagara Falls, Peterborough, St. Thomas, Riverside, St. Boniface, Lethbridge and Victoria recorded gain as compared with November, 1938, and also as compared with December, 1937.

CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR 1938.

The following table shows the value of the building authorized by 58 cities during the Decembers of the years since 1920, and also for the completed years; the 1938 figures are unrevised, while for preceding years the statistics are revised. (A revised statement for 1938 will be issued next month). Index numbers, based upon the total value of the building authorized by these cities during 1926 as 100, are given below, as are the average index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials in the years 1920-38.

Year	Value of permits issued in December	Value of permits issued in twelve months	Indexes of value of permits issued in twelve months (1926=100)	Average indexes of wholesale prices of building materials, twelve months (1926=100)
1938	\$3,471,555	\$60,855,610	38.9	90.0
1937	3,556,977	55,844,999	35.7	94.4
1936	3,282,166	41,325,693	26.4	85.3
1935	2,401,856	46,560,623	29.8	81.2
1934	2,521,820	27,457,524	17.6	82.6
1933	1,983,292	21,776,496	13.9	78.3
1932	1,569,255	42,319,397	27.1	77.2
1931	7,895,106	112,222,845	71.8	81.9
1930	15,440,281	166,379,325	106.4	90.9
1929	14,688,682	234,944,549	150.2	99.0
1928	16,095,160	219,105,715	140.1	97.1
1927	11,755,566	184,613,742	118.0	96.1
1926	11,508,818	156,386,607	100.0	100.0
1925	7,363,777	125,029,367	79.9	102.9
1924	6,463,319	126,583,148	80.9	106.6
1923	6,974,256	133,521,621	85.4	111.8
1922	9,517,402	148,215,407	94.8	108.7
1921	5,537,330	116,794,414	74.7	122.7
1920	4,844,354	117,019,622	74.8	144.0

The unrevised statistics for 1938 indicate that last year's aggregate was the largest in seven years, being nine p.c. higher than in 1937, the previous maximum since 1931. However, the annual aggregate for each of those years has been considerably below the average for the eighteen years, 1920-1937. The index number of wholesale prices of building materials in 1938, though lower than in 1937, was higher than in any of the years, 1931-1936.

The accompanying table gives the value of the building permits issued by 58 cities in November and December, 1938, and December, 1937. The 35 centres for which records are available since 1910 are marked thus "x".

Estimated Value of Construction Work as Indicated by Building Permits Issued by 58 Cities.

Cities	December, 1938	November, 1938	December, 1937
P.E.I.-Charlottetown	Nil	3,000	3,100
Nova Scotia	91,380	375,140	106,562
x Halifax	65,460	328,495	82,215
New Glasgow	6,455	9,590	585
x Sydney	19,465	37,055	23,762
New Brunswick	30,880	38,531	62,545
Fredericton	17,000	10,030	48,800
x Moncton	9,100	17,060	1,675
x Saint John	4,780	11,441	12,070
Quebec	1,157,518	1,521,175	1,010,367
x Montreal- x Maisonneuve	912,960	1,173,330	870,928
x Quebec	125,040	171,065	26,639
Shawinigan Falls	7,900	15,050	5,000
x Sherbrooke	64,000	86,740	54,800
x Three Rivers	34,035	26,740	11,750
x Westmount	13,583	48,250	41,250
Ontario	1,728,435	2,013,807	1,882,154
Belleville	2,950	7,950	2,050
x Brantford	30,044	10,404	13,140
Chatham	47,100	38,780	1,000
x Fort William	9,215	15,498	22,900
Galt	7,725	44,613	15,455
x Guelph	8,447	25,405	2,340
x Hamilton	128,410	303,406	87,817
x Kingston	25,650	11,562	19,390
x Kitchener	27,345	43,582	14,795
x London	89,565	34,130	96,245
Niagara Falls	12,150	720	200
Oshawa	9,375	14,145	23,235
x Ottawa	54,000	107,990	243,500
Owen Sound	400	2,685	750
x Peterborough	33,075	17,440	935
x Port Arthur	3,945	10,296	1,015
x Stratford	150	1,100	1,180
x St. Catherine	19,225	19,909	38,280
x St. Thomas	44,500	8,490	1,400
Sarnia	275	6,399	28,805
Sault Ste. Marie	19,040	48,875	30,145
x Toronto	1,012,507	1,034,731	1,111,196
York & East York Townships	108,800	145,874	64,621
Welland	3,050	12,339	700
x Windsor	11,927	27,395	46,127
Riverside	15,565	4,265	5,700
Woodstock	4,000	15,824	9,233
Manitoba	134,940	236,085	52,000
x Brandon	Nil	Nil	800
St. Boniface	62,390	51,035	1,000
x Winnipeg	72,550	185,050	50,200
Saskatchewan	13,135	49,375	30,841
x Moose Jaw	Nil	3,590	2,735
x Regina	12,190	43,685	24,106
x Saskatoon	945	2,100	4,000
Alberta	41,197	73,283	97,563
x Calgary	11,267	34,188	21,771
x Edmonton	23,450	33,120	73,675
Lethbridge	5,480	3,700	2,117
Medicine Hat	1,000	2,275	Nil
British Columbia	274,070	376,900	311,845
Tamlloops	3,240	2,770	9,050
Nanaimo	1,460	8,200	50
x New Westminster	13,600	21,975	22,050
Prince Rupert	1,042	1,950	1,350
x Vancouver	196,490	272,370	235,730
North Vancouver	1,270	13,260	1,525
x Victoria	56,968	56,375	42,090
Total - 58 Cities	3,471,555	4,687,296	3,556,977
Total -x 35 Cities	3,133,888	4,223,967	3,302,526

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
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Dominion Statistician: R. H. Coats, LL.D., F.R.S.C., F.S.S.(Hon.)
 In Charge Employment Statistics: M. E. K. Roughsedge.

BUILDING PERMITS REPORTS FOR JANUARY, 1939, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS
 FOR DECEMBER, 1938, AND JANUARY, 1938.

The value of the building authorized by 58 cities in January, 1939, showed a seasonal decline as compared with the preceding month, and the total was also lower than in January, 1938; the co-operating municipalities issued permits for building work estimated to cost \$1,706,630, compared with \$3,482,915 in December, 1938, and \$1,859,181 in January of last year. There was therefore a reduction of 51 p.c. in the former comparison, and of 8.2 p.c. in the latter comparison.

Some 50 centres furnished detailed statements for January, showing that they had granted about 160 permits for dwellings, whose anticipated cost was over \$600,000, and more than 900 permits for other buildings estimated at approximately \$1,000,000. In December, the erection of some 230 dwellings and 1,000 other buildings was authorized, at an estimated expenditure of \$1,000,000 and \$2,200,000, respectively.

Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia reported increases in the value of the building represented by the permits taken out in January as compared with December, 1938. The largest gain of \$295,276 or 107.6 p.c. took place in British Columbia. Of the declines elsewhere recorded, the most marked were those of \$924,643 or 79.9 p.c. in Quebec, and \$1,095,675 or 63.0 p.c. in Ontario.

As compared with January, 1938, Nova Scotia, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia showed increases, of which those of \$75,408 in Nova Scotia, and \$47,695 in Alberta were most pronounced. In the other provinces, the value of the building authorized was lower, the reduction of \$189,926 or 22.8 p.c. in Ontario being greatest.

In Montreal, Toronto and Winnipeg there were decreases in the value of the building undertaken as compared with the preceding month, and also as compared with the same month of last year, while Vancouver showed gains in both comparisons. The following cities also reported increases over December and as compared with January of last year:—Halifax, Saint John, Galt, Guelph, Oshawa, Ottawa, Owen Sound, Stratford, St. Catharines, Regina, Calgary, Edmonton, Lethbridge, Nanaimo, New Westminster and North Vancouver.

RECORD FOR JANUARY IN THE YEARS, 1920-1939.

The following table gives the value of the building authorized by 58 cities during January of each year since 1920. Index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials in January of the same years are also given, (1926=100).

Year	Value of permits issued in January	Indexes of value of permits issued in January (1926=100)	Indexes of wholesale prices of building materials in January (1926 average = 100)
1939	\$1,706,630	36.1	87.3
1938	1,859,181	39.4	91.6
1937	1,721,867	36.5	89.1
1936	1,302,758	27.6	83.6
1935	882,878	18.7	81.6
1934	707,812	15.0	81.9
1933	1,185,961	25.1	75.7
1932	2,761,929	58.5	79.4
1931	8,401,456	178.0	84.0
1930	7,217,397	152.9	97.4
1929	8,416,880	178.3	98.0
1928	7,716,587	163.5	95.2
1927	5,676,537	120.3	96.8
1926	4,719,534	100.0	102.3
1925	5,447,270	115.4	101.9
1924	4,460,579	94.5	112.4
1923	4,139,498	87.7	109.8
1922	3,326,537	70.5	109.4
1921	2,595,564	55.0	143.0
1920	4,017,024	85.1	134.5

The 1939 figure was less by 51 p.c. than in January, 1938, and was also slightly lower than in 1937, but was higher than in any earlier year since 1932. The wholesale costs of building materials in recent months have been below those in the same period of the preceding year, and in January, 1939, were also slightly lower than in 1937, although they were higher than in any January in the period, 1931-1936.

The table on page 3 gives the value of the building permits issued by 58 cities in January, 1939, and December and January, 1938. The statistics for all but the present year are based on revised statements furnished by the civic officials after the close of the year. The 35 cities for which statistics are available since 1910 are indicated thus "x".

Estimated Value of Construction Work According to Building Permits issued by 58 cities.

Cities	January, 1939	December, 1938	January, 1938
P.E.I. - Charlottetown	4,500	-	5,100
Nova Scotia	99,713	91,380	24,305
x Halifax	90,995	65,460	20,425
New Glasgow	5,500	6,455	2,000
x Sydney	3,218	19,465	1,880
New Brunswick	5,065	30,880	24,625
Fredericton	-	17,000	17,000
x Moncton	1/	9,100	3,050
x Saint John	5,065	4,780	4,575
Quebec	232,875	1,157,518	318,110
x Montreal - x Maisonneuve	155,915	912,960	215,065
x Quebec	14,645	125,040	38,420
Shawinigan Falls	3,500	7,900	750
x Sherbrooke	36,100	64,000	19,300
x Three Rivers	7,375	34,035	825
x Westmount	15,340	13,583	43,750
Ontario	643,760	1,739,435	833,686
Belleville	2,900	2,950	500
x Brantford	1,800	30,044	6,500
Chatham	9,700	47,100	7,150
x Fort William	5,237	9,215	18,700
Galt	18,025	7,725	2,165
x Guelph	11,255	8,447	1,600
x Hamilton	31,850	128,410	105,687
x Kingston	5,560	25,650	14,454
x Kitchener	5,350	27,345	26,470
x London	35,760	89,565	21,025
Niagara Falls	410	12,150	5,850
Oshawa	25,210	9,375	1,800
x Ottawa	83,990	73,200	45,875
Owen Sound	22,000	400	1,000
x Peterborough	6,110	33,075	10,130
x Port Arthur	2,610	3,945	3,940
x Stratford	775	150	500
x St. Catharines	42,950	19,225	3,500
x St. Thomas	-	44,500	7,600
Sarnia	14,750	275	18,550
Sault Ste. Marie	2,600	19,040	2,500
x Toronto	213,843	1,013,307	253,800
York & East York Townships	51,750	98,800	11,350
Welland	-	3,050	900
x Windsor	45,902	11,927	255,800
Riverside	500	16,565	4,150
Woodstock	3,123	4,000	2,190
Manitoba	33,512	134,940	47,010
x Brandon	660	-	-
St. Boniface	5,402	62,390	3,310
x Winnipeg	27,450	72,550	43,700
Saskatchewan	35,698	13,135	14,925
x Moose Jaw	-	-	-
x Regina	34,048	12,190	7,525
x Saskatoon	1,650	945	7,400
Alberta	81,801	41,197	34,106
x Calgary	12,776	11,267	7,111
x Edmonton	47,525	23,450	21,225
Lethbridge	21,500	5,480	5,770
Medicine Hat	-	1,000	-
British Columbia	569,706	274,430	557,314
Kamloops	855	3,240	150
Nanaimo	3,800	1,460	75
x New Westminster	83,890	13,600	34,650
Prince Rupert	1,300	1,402	127,360
x Vancouver	421,235	196,490	344,205
North Vancouver	12,575	1,270	7,125
x Victoria	46,051	56,968	43,749
Total - 58 Cities	1,706,630	3,482,915	1,859,181
Total - x 35 Cities	1,496,730	3,153,888	1,632,436

1/ Report not received in time for tabulation.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
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OTTAWA - CANADA.

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Dominion Statistician:	R. H. Coats, LL.D., F.R.S.C., F.S.S.(Hon.)
In Charge Employment Statistics:	M. E. K. Roughsedge.

BUILDING PERMITS REPORTS FOR FEBRUARY, 1939, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS
FOR JANUARY, 1939, AND FEBRUARY, 1938.

The value of the building represented by the permits issued by 58 cities stood at \$1,894,161 in February, 1939; this was an increase of \$187,531 or 11.1 p.c. over the total of \$1,706,630 for the preceding month, but a decrease of \$470,241 or 19.9 p.c. in comparison with February of last year, when the authorized building in these cities was estimated to cost \$2,364,402.

Some 50 cities furnished detailed statistics, showing that they had granted more than 200 permits for dwellings valued at over \$700,000, and more than 800 permits for other buildings, estimated to cost in excess of \$850,000. In January, authority was given for the erection of some 160 dwellings and 900 other buildings, whose value was estimated at approximately \$600,000 and \$1,000,000, respectively.

New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and British Columbia reported increases in the value of the building represented by the permits issued as compared with January, 1939; the greatest gain, of \$182,140, or 78.2 p.c., took place in Quebec. In Nova Scotia, Saskatchewan and Alberta there were declines in this comparison, that of \$47,928 or 48.1 p.c. in Nova Scotia being largest; Prince Edward Island reported no building authorizations during February.

1938,

As compared with February, New Brunswick, Quebec and Saskatchewan recorded moderate increases. The remaining provinces showed a falling-off in the value of the building authorized; the most noteworthy decrease in this comparison was that of \$398,652 or 36.5 p.c. in Ontario.

Of the four largest cities, Toronto and Vancouver reported increases in February in the estimated cost of the building work for which permits were taken out as compared with either January, 1939, or February, 1938, while in Montreal and Winnipeg there were gains over the preceding month, but losses as compared with the same month of last year.

Of the other centres, Sydney, Moncton, Quebec, Shawinigan Falls, Sherbrooke, Three Rivers, Brantford, Chatham, Fort William, Niagara Falls, Stratford, St. Thomas, Welland, Riverside, Moose Jaw and Calgary reported improvement over January, 1939, and also as compared with February, 1938.

CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR FIRST TWO MONTHS, 1939.

The following table gives the value of the building authorized by 58 cities during February, and in the first two months of each year since 1920, as well as index numbers for the latter, based upon the total for 1926 as 100. The average index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials in January and February of the same years are also given (1926=100).

Year	Value of permits issued in February	Value of permits issued in first two months	Indexes of value of permits issued in first two months, (1926=100)	Average indexes of wholesale prices of building materials in first two months, (1926=100)
1939	\$1,894,161	\$3,600,791	30.4	87.3
1938	2,364,402	4,323,583	36.5	91.5
1937	2,138,886	3,860,753	32.6	90.1
1936	1,921,176	3,223,934	27.2	83.9
1935	3,601,637	4,484,515	37.8	81.8
1934	894,102	1,601,914	13.5	82.2
1933	925,894	2,111,856	17.8	75.2
1932	2,845,271	6,056,283	51.1	79.4
1931	6,395,659	14,797,115	124.8	83.8
1930	8,919,078	16,136,475	136.1	96.8
1929	10,465,330	18,882,210	159.2	99.6
1928	10,318,338	18,034,925	152.4	96.4
1927	7,638,176	13,314,713	112.3	97.1
1926	7,139,549	11,859,083	100.0	102.4
1925	5,902,118	11,349,388	95.7	103.2
1924	4,093,800	8,554,379	72.1	112.3
1923	5,679,671	9,819,169	82.8	110.1
1922	4,738,105	8,064,642	68.0	108.3
1921	3,683,359	6,278,923	52.9	140.5
1920	6,156,287	10,173,311	85.8	137.5

The aggregate for the first two months of 1939, was 16.7 p.c. lower than in 1938, and was also lower than in 1937 or 1935; on the other hand, it was higher than in the first two months of 1936, 1934 or 1933. The index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials have recently been lower than in the same period of the preceding year, and in January and February were also lower than in the first two months of 1937, although they were higher than in preceding years since 1930.

The table on page 3 gives the value of the building permits issued by 58 cities in January and February, 1939, and February, 1938. The 35 cities for which statistics are available since 1910 are marked thus "x".

Estimated Value of Construction Work as Indicated by Building Permits Issued by 58 Cities.

C i t i e s	February, 1939	January, 1939	February, 1938
	\$	\$	\$
P.E.I.- Charlottetown	Nil	4,500	3,000
Nova Scotia	51,785	99,713	67,635
x Halifax	43,935	90,995	66,110
New Glasgow	1,350	5,500	225
x Sydney	6,500	3,218	1,300
New Brunswick	24,095	5,065	20,951
Fredericton	Nil	Nil	900
x Moncton	6,450	-	Nil
x Saint John	17,645	5,065	20,051
Quebec	415,015	232,875	404,620
x Montreal - x Maisonneuve	279,180	155,915	295,355
x Quebec	60,300	14,645	43,630
Shawinigan Falls	8,025	3,500	5,200
x Sherbrooke	43,000	36,100	25,000
x Three Rivers	17,975	7,375	13,935
x Westmount	6,535	15,340	21,500
Ontario	692,804	643,760	1,091,456
Belleville	675	2,900	5,900
x Brantford	6,325	1,800	2,200
Chatham	17,800	9,700	8,900
x Fort William	22,275	5,237	3,000
Galt	3,240	18,025	650
x Guelph	2,895	11,255	6,370
x Hamilton	40,050	31,850	505,543
x Kingston	2,300	5,560	10,450
x Kitchener	8,025	5,150	10,380
x London	29,505	35,760	7,865
Niagara Falls	14,350	410	4,382
Oshawa	1,450	25,210	Nil
x Ottawa	40,620	83,990	109,400
Owen Sound	19,650	22,000	9,190
x Peterborough	4,875	6,110	6,600
x Port Arthur	410	2,610	3,740
x Stratford	4,120	775	100
x St. Catharines	7,550	42,950	4,250
x St. Thomas	12,621	Nil	4,350
Sarnia	2,450	14,750	9,115
Sault Ste. Marie	3,300	2,600	5,250
x Toronto	350,639	213,843	289,940
York & East York Townships	44,800	51,750	45,300
Welland	8,907	Nil	1,250
x Windsor	18,072	45,902	32,731
Riverside	24,800	500	900
Woodstock	1,100	3,123	3,700
Manitoba	42,225	33,512	62,675
x Brandon	Nil	660	Nil
St. Boniface	3,275	5,402	1,175
x Winnipeg	38,950	27,450	61,500
Saskatchewan	29,925	35,698	7,245
x Moose Jaw	22,000	Nil	45
x Regina	6,925	34,048	5,450
x Saskatoon	1,000	1,650	1,750
Alberta	37,197	81,801	52,036
x Calgary	16,087	12,776	14,875
x Edmonton	13,250	47,525	24,660
Lethbridge	7,860	21,500	12,501
Medicine Hat	Nil	Nil	Nil
British Columbia	601,115	569,706	654,784
Kamloops	2,500	855	4,460
Nanaimo	750	3,800	11,073
x New Westminster	65,750	83,890	34,950
Prince Rupert	1,575	1,300	4,075
x Vancouver	455,610	421,235	434,290
North Vancouver	9,460	12,575	8,225
x Victoria	65,470	46,051	157,711
Total - 58 Cities	1,894,161	1,706,630	2,364,402
Total - x 35 Cities	1,716,844	1,496,730	2,219,031

Published by Authority of Hon. W. D. Euler, M.P., Minister of Trade and Commerce

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Dominion Statistician:	R. H. Coats, LL.D., F.R.S.C., F.S.S.(Hon.)
In Charge Employment Statistics:	M. E. K. Roughsedge.

BUILDING PERMITS FOR MARCH, 1939, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS FOR
FEBRUARY, 1939, AND MARCH, 1938, AND CUMULATIVE FIGURES FOR FIRST QUARTER,
1920-1939.

According to returns tabulated by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, the value of the building permits issued by 58 cities during March was \$3,351,194. This was an increase of \$1,457,033 or 76.9 p.c. over the February total of \$1,894,161, but a decrease of \$210,323 or 5.9 p.c. as compared with the aggregate of \$3,561,517 reported for March, 1938.

The building represented by the construction permits taken out in the first three months of the present year was valued at \$6,951,985; this was lower than the total of \$7,885,100 reported in the first quarter of 1938, and was also lower than the 1937 aggregate of \$10,527,992. The cumulative total for this period in each of the years since 1931 has been substantially below the average of \$17,593,858 indicated in the months, January-March in the years, 1920-1938.

Some 50 cities furnished detailed statistics for March, 1939, showing that they had granted about 300 permits for dwellings valued at more than \$1,000,000 and more than 1,400 permits for other buildings estimated to cost approximately \$2,100,000. During February, authority was given for the erection of about 200 dwellings and over 800 other buildings, estimated to cost approximately \$700,000 and \$850,000, respectively.

Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia reported increases in the value of the building authorized during March, 1939, as compared with the preceding month. The greatest gain was that of \$788,521 or 113.8 p.c. in Ontario. New Brunswick showed a decline of \$14,310 in this comparison.

As compared with March, 1938, Ontario and the three Prairie Provinces recorded increases, of which the most pronounced gain was that of \$115,045 or 8.4 p.c. in Ontario. The remaining provinces showed a falling-off in the value of the building authorized; the reduction of \$150,107 or 16.2 p.c. in Quebec was greatest.

Of the larger cities, Toronto and Winnipeg reported increases as compared with the preceding month and with March, 1938; in Montreal there was a gain over February, 1939, but a loss as compared with the same month of last year, while the building authorizations in Vancouver showed a decrease in each comparison. Of the other centres, Shawinigan Falls, Westmount, Belleville, Fort William, Kitchener, London, Port Arthur, Sault Ste. Marie, York and East York Townships, St. Boniface, Regina, Calgary, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat, New Westminster, Prince Rupert and Victoria reported higher totals than in either February, 1939, or March, 1938.

CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR FIRST QUARTER, 1939.

The following table gives the value of the building authorized by 58 cities during March and in the first quarter of each year since 1920, as well as index numbers for the latter, based upon the total for 1926 as 100. The average index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials in the first quarter of the same years are also given, (1926=100).

Year	Value of permits issued in March	Value of permits issued in first quarter	Indexes of value of permits issued in first quarter, (1926=100)	Average indexes of wholesale prices of building materials in first quarter, (1926=100)
1939	\$ 3,351,194	\$ 6,951,985	30.9	87.3
1938	3,561,517	7,885,100	34.6	91.3
1937	6,667,239	10,527,992	46.8	92.5
1936	2,368,537	5,592,471	24.9	84.0
1935	4,022,755	8,507,270	37.8	81.4
1934	1,109,085	2,710,999	12.1	82.2
1933	953,966	3,065,821	13.6	75.2
1932	3,396,729	9,453,012	42.0	79.3
1931	9,948,979	24,746,094	110.0	83.7
1930	13,356,787	29,493,262	131.1	96.7
1929	24,068,018	42,950,228	190.9	99.2
1928	15,128,413	33,163,338	147.4	95.5
1927	11,713,640	25,028,353	111.3	96.4
1926	10,634,491	22,493,574	100.0	102.0
1925	8,631,627	19,981,015	88.2	102.9
1924	9,493,620	18,047,999	80.2	112.2
1923	9,658,950	19,478,119	86.6	110.6
1922	10,615,531	18,680,173	83.0	108.0
1921	7,290,589	13,569,512	60.3	139.1
1920	8,736,675	18,909,986	84.1	139.4

The value of the building authorized in the first three months of 1939 was lower by 11.8 p.c. than in the same period of 1938, and was also lower than in the first quarter of 1937; it was, however, higher than in the same period in 1936. As already stated, the total for the months January - March in the years since 1931 have been much below the average for those months in the last nineteen years. The index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials in the first three months of this year, while lower than in the same quarter of 1938 or 1937, were higher than in the first three months of other years since 1930; wholesale prices throughout this period, however, have also been considerably lower than in preceding years of the record.

The table on page 3 gives the value of the building permits issued by 58 cities in February and March, 1939, and March, 1938. The 35 cities for which statistics are available since 1910 are marked thus "x".

Estimated Value of Construction Work Indicated by Building Permits Issued by 58 Cities.

Cities	March, 1939	February, 1939	March, 1938
	\$	\$	\$
P.E.I.- Charlottetown	Nil	-	1,000
Nova Scotia	83,958	51,785	184,185
x Halifax	80,670	43,935	142,250
New Glasgow	88	1,350	17,100
x Sydney	3,200	6,500	24,835
New Brunswick	9,785	24,095	17,895
Fredericton	Nil	-	-
x Moncton	4,285	6,450	7,390
x Saint John	5,500	17,645	10,505
Quebec	774,106	415,015	924,213
x Montreal - x Maisonneuve	623,905	279,180	763,853
x Quebec	70,510	60,300	96,397
Shawinigan Falls	20,875	8,025	3,200
x Sherbrooke	33,800	43,000	47,910
x Three Rivers	14,005	17,975	7,735
x Westmount	11,011	6,535	5,118
Ontario	1,481,325	692,804	1,366,280
Belleville	5,750	675	525
x Brantford	29,180	6,325	64,042
Chatham	7,700	17,800	13,950
x Fort William	32,059	22,275	6,150
Galt	12,150	3,240	12,731
x Guelph	2,155	2,895	3,400
x Hamilton	115,102	40,050	123,403
x Kingston	13,801	2,300	19,919
x Kitchener	38,687	8,025	28,182
x London	44,960	29,505	40,940
Niagara Falls	10,525	14,350	21,600
Oshawa	325	1,450	4,150
x Ottawa	55,900	40,620	101,000
Owen Sound	2,000	19,650	22,148
x Peterborough	3,225	4,875	11,641
x Port Arthur	30,563	410	7,928
x Stratford	200	4,120	3,233
x St. Catharines	9,360	7,550	28,360
x St. Thomas	1,786	12,621	4,200
Sarnia	7,592	2,450	10,210
Sault Ste. Marie	47,150	3,300	2,700
x Toronto	876,475	350,639	714,620
York & East York Townships	98,050	44,800	51,505
Welland	330	8,907	8,655
x Windsor	30,527	18,072	39,020
Riverside	3,200	24,800	5,500
Woodstock	2,573	1,100	16,568
Manitoba	92,125	42,225	55,550
x Brandon	6,300	-	15,450
St. Boniface	9,375	3,275	2,300
x Winnipeg	76,450	38,950	37,800
Saskatchewan	34,376	29,925	30,990
x Moose Jaw	270	22,000	200
x Regina	25,381	6,925	21,365
x Saskatoon	8,725	1,000	9,425
Alberta	165,219	37,197	153,491
x Calgary	37,424	16,087	29,996
x Edmonton	95,785	13,250	97,535
Lethbridge	31,860	7,860	25,960
Medicine Hat	150	Nil	-
British Columbia	710,300	601,115	827,913
Kamloops	2,745	2,500	12,600
Nanaimo	8,250	750	13,280
x New Westminster	182,450	65,750	115,675
Prince Rupert	39,640	1,575	4,070
x Vancouver	400,005	455,610	600,835
North Vancouver	6,610	9,460	17,335
x Victoria	70,600	65,470	64,118
Total - 58 Cities	3,351,194	1,894,161	3,561,517
Total -x 35 Cities	3,035,256	1,716,844	3,294,430

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
GENERAL STATISTICS BRANCH
OTTAWA - CANADA

Issued May 17, 1939.

Dominion Statistician:	R. H. Coats, LL.D., F.R.S.C., F.S.S.(Hon.)
In Charge Employment Statistics:	M. E. K. Roughsedge

BUILDING PERMITS FOR APRIL, 1939, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS FOR MARCH, 1939,
AND APRIL, 1938, AND CUMULATIVE FIGURES FOR FIRST FOUR MONTHS, 1920-1939.

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics tabulated returns from 58 cities which granted permits for construction work valued at \$5,936,806 during April, as compared with \$3,351,194 in the preceding month, and \$4,890,677 in the same month of last year. There was, therefore, an increase of \$2,585,612 or 58.3 p.c. as compared with March, and of \$1,046,129 or 21.4 p.c. over April of last year.

The estimated value of the construction authorized in the first four months of the present year was \$12,888,791; this was slightly higher than the aggregate of \$12,775,777 reported in the period, January-April, 1938, although it was lower than in 1937. The cumulative total for the first four months in each of the years since 1931 has been decidedly smaller than the average in the period since 1919. The wholesale prices of building materials have recently been rather lower than in the same months of 1938 or 1937, but were higher than in other years since 1930.

Some 50 cities furnished detailed statistics for April, 1939, showing that they had issued more than 500 permits for dwellings valued at approximately \$1,800,000 and for over 2,300 other buildings, estimated to cost almost \$3,600,000. There were also two engineering projects valued at \$7,000. In March, authority was given for the erection of about 300 dwellings and 1,400 other buildings, valued at approximately \$1,000,000 and \$2,100,000, respectively.

All provinces except Prince Edward Island reported increases in the value of the building represented by the permits issued during April as compared with the preceding month, the greatest advance of \$1,229,309 or 158.8 p.c. taking place in Quebec. The return for Prince Edward Island shows that no permits were taken out during the month under review.

As compared with April, 1938, there were increases in New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and British Columbia. In this comparison also, the largest gain was in Quebec, where the permits were higher in value by \$1,159,173 or 137.3 p.c. Declines from April, 1938, were recorded in the remaining provinces, that of \$535,659 or 53.1 p.c. in Alberta being most pronounced.

Of the four largest cities, Montreal, Winnipeg and Vancouver showed increases in the building authorized during April as compared with the preceding month, and also over April, 1938. In Toronto, the estimated value was lower than in March, 1939, but was slightly higher than in April of last year. Of the other centres, Sydney, Moncton, Quebec, Sherbrooke, Brantford, Chatham, Fort William, Galt, Guelph, Hamilton, Kingston, Kitchener, London, Oshawa, Port Arthur, St. Catharines, Sault Ste. Marie, Welland, St. Boniface, Calgary, Lethbridge, Kamloops and North Vancouver reported increases in the value of the construction work represented by the permits issued, as compared with March, 1939, and also with April, 1938.

CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR FIRST FOUR MONTHS, 1920-1939.

The following table gives the value of the building authorized by 58 cities during April and in the first four months of each year since 1920, as well as index numbers for the latter, based upon the total for 1926 as 100. The average index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials in the first four months of the same years are also given, (1926=100).

Year	Value of permits issued in April	Value of permits issued in first four months	Indexes of value of permits issued in first four months (1926=100)	Average indexes of wholesale prices of building materials, in first four months, (1926 average =100)
1939	5,936,806	12,888,791	31.0	87.4
1938	4,890,677	12,775,777	30.8	91.2
1937	6,106,693	16,634,685	40.0	93.8
1936	3,237,366	8,829,837	21.3	84.2
1935	6,300,046	14,807,316	35.6	81.5
1934	2,269,157	4,980,156	12.0	82.4
1933	1,595,502	4,661,323	11.2	75.1
1932	4,370,863	13,823,873	33.3	79.1
1931	13,495,165	38,241,259	92.1	83.7
1930	16,978,076	46,471,338	111.9	96.2
1929	29,656,709	72,606,937	174.8	99.4
1928	18,606,167	51,769,505	124.6	95.7
1927	17,312,470	42,340,823	101.9	96.3
1926	19,044,499	41,538,073	100.0	101.7
1925	15,482,383	35,463,398	85.4	103.1
1924	13,689,101	31,737,100	76.4	111.6
1923	19,530,851	39,008,970	93.9	110.8
1922	15,833,688	34,513,861	83.1	107.7
1921	13,500,360	27,069,872	65.2	136.9
1920	15,648,915	34,558,901	83.2	143.1

As already stated, the aggregate for the first four months of this year was slightly larger than in the same period of 1938; it was also greater than in 1936, 1934 or 1933, but was exceeded by the January-April total in 1937, 1935 or 1932 and also by the figures for preceding years for which data are available. The index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials in 1939 were lower than in the months, January-April in 1938 or 1937, but were rather higher than in earlier years since 1930.

Table 1 gives the value of the building permits issued by 58 cities during April and March, 1939, and April, 1938. The 35 cities for which records are available since 1910 are marked thus "x".

Estimated Value of Construction Work Indicated by Building Permits Issued by 58 Cities.

Cities	April 1939	March 1939	April 1938
	\$	\$	\$
P.E.I. - Charlottetown	1/	Nil	6,100
Nova Scotia	87,865	83,958	156,606
x Halifax	46,800	80,670	116,396
New Glasgow	4,175	88	18,640
x Sydney	36,890	3,200	21,570
New Brunswick	87,630	9,785	47,386
Fredericton	2,000	Nil	8,000
x Moncton	73,250	4,285	23,250
x Saint John	12,380	5,500	16,136
Quebec	2,003,415	774,106	844,242
x Montreal - x Maisonneuve	761,375	623,905	482,352
x Quebec	1,002,720	70,510	100,235
Shawinigan Falls	22,250	20,875	34,805
x Sherbrooke	166,550	33,800	70,200
x Three Rivers	29,250	14,005	33,400
x Westmount	21,270	11,011	123,250
Ontario	2,011,521	1,481,325	1,641,759
Belleville	3,455	5,750	3,400
x Brantford	97,020	29,180	10,580
Chatham	46,700	7,700	8,624
x Fort William	89,435	32,059	23,745
Galt	47,773	12,150	29,761
x Guelph	13,075	2,155	5,000
x Hamilton	275,313	115,102	139,235
x Kingston	36,848	13,801	22,475
x Kitchener	58,842	38,687	43,400
x London	104,960	44,960	93,375
Niagara Falls	7,890	10,525	77,910
Oshawa	10,500	325	10,165
x Ottawa	189,040	55,900	338,470
Owen Sound	5,570	2,000	15,050
x Peterborough	26,642	3,225	28,735
x Port Arthur	53,110	30,563	37,565
x Stratford	11,365	200	14,429
x St. Catharines	168,910	9,360	10,833
x St. Thomas	12,545	1,786	14,495
Sarnia	3,870	7,592	10,832
Sault Ste. Marie	73,150	47,150	22,750
x Toronto	514,467	876,475	503,698
York & East York Townships	92,545	98,050	106,960
Welland	29,875	330	21,750
x Windsor	27,955	30,527	30,030
Riverside	6,450	3,200	8,050
Woodstock	4,216	2,573	10,442
Manitoba	330,760	92,125	254,640
x Brandon	4,075	6,300	4,355
St. Boniface	29,235	9,375	23,585
x Winnipeg	297,450	76,450	226,700
Saskatchewan	41,229	34,376	94,853
x Moose Jaw	3,875	270	7,665
x Regina	35,344	25,381	78,633
x Saskatoon	2,010	8,725	8,555
Alberta	474,060	165,219	1,009,719
x Calgary	196,190	37,424	75,639
x Edmonton	173,165	95,785	926,965
Lethbridge	104,705	31,860	6,065
Medicine Hat	Nil	150	1,050
British Columbia	900,326	710,300	835,372
Kamloops	10,555	2,745	2,440
Nanaimo	4,420	8,250	9,300
x New Westminster	64,660	182,450	51,050
Prince Rupert	12,195	39,640	7,030
x Vancouver	750,155	400,005	703,445
North Vancouver	15,140	6,610	15,025
x Victoria	43,201	70,600	47,082
Total - 58 Cities	5,936,806	3,351,194	4,890,677
Total -x 35 Cities	5,400,137	3,035,256	4,432,943

1/ Report not received in time for April tabulation.

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Dominion Statistician:	R. H. Coats, LL.D., F.R.S.C., F.S.S. (Hon.)
In Charge Employment Statistics:	M. E. K. Roughsedge.

BUILDING PERMITS FOR MAY, 1939, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS FOR APRIL, 1939,
AND MAY, 1938, AND CUMULATIVE FIGURES FOR FIRST FIVE MONTHS, 1920-1939.

The estimated cost of the building represented by the construction permits taken out in 58 cities during May, 1939, was higher by 7.6 p.c. than in April, 1939, but was lower by 3.2 p.c. than in May, 1938; with this exception, however, the total was higher than in any other May since that of 1931. According to statements tabulated by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, the authorizations amounted to \$6,390,779, as compared with \$5,936,806 in the preceding month, and \$6,599,318 in May of last year.

The value of the building authorized in the first five months of the present year was \$19,279,570; this was slightly lower than the aggregate of \$19,375,095 reported in the period, January - May, 1938, and was also lower than in the same months of 1937. The wholesale prices of building materials also have recently been lower than in the corresponding period of 1937 or 1938.

Some 50 cities furnished detailed statistics for May, 1939, showing that they had issued some 750 permits for dwellings valued at approximately \$2,800,000, and for more than 3,000 other buildings, estimated to cost over \$3,000,000. In April, authority was given for the erection of about 500 dwellings and 2,300 other buildings, valued at approximately \$1,800,000 and \$3,600,000, respectively.

Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan recorded increases in the value of the building represented by the permits issued during May as compared with the preceding month. Ontario showed the greatest gain, of \$485,505, or 24.1 p.c. On the other hand, the totals in Quebec, Alberta and British Columbia were lower than in April; the largest decline in this comparison was that of \$140,148, or 15.6 p.c., in the last-named.

As compared with May, 1938, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta registered increases, of which that of \$762,011, or 61.7 p.c., in Quebec was most noteworthy. The greatest decline, of \$1,041,497, or 57.8 p.c., was in British Columbia.

Of the four largest cities, Montreal showed improvement as compared with last month, and also over the same month of last year. In Toronto, the total value of the building represented by the permits for construction granted in May was greater than in April, 1939, but smaller than in May, 1938, while in Winnipeg the reverse was the case, the aggregate for the month under review being slightly smaller than in the preceding month, but considerably larger than in May of last year. The authorizations reported in Vancouver were lower than in either April, 1939, or May, 1938.

Of the other centres, Charlottetown, New Glasgow, Sydney, Fredericton, Saint John, Shawinigan Falls, Sherbrooke, Three Rivers, Westmount, Belleville, Guelph, Niagara Falls, Oshawa, Ottawa, Peterborough, Sarnia, Woodstock, Brandon, Moose Jaw, Regina, Saskatoon and Medicine Hat showed increases in the value of the building authorized as compared with either the preceding month, or the same month of 1938.

CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR FIRST FIVE MONTHS, 1939.

The following table gives the value of the building authorized by 58 cities in May and in the first five months of each year since 1920, as well as index numbers for the latter, based upon the total for 1926 as 100. The average index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials in the first five months of the same years are also given (1926=100).

Year	Value of permits issued in May	Value of permits issued in first five months	Indexes of value of permits issued in first five months (1926=100)	Average indexes of wholesale prices of building materials in first five months (1926 average =100)
1939	\$6,390,779	\$19,279,570	32.1	87.5
1938	6,599,318	19,375,095	32.3	90.7
1937	5,416,299	22,050,984	36.7	94.6
1936	4,836,358	13,666,195	22.8	86.3
1935	4,728,340	19,535,656	32.5	81.7
1934	3,019,761	7,999,917	13.3	83.0
1933	2,065,372	6,726,695	11.2	75.2
1932	5,488,845	19,312,720	32.1	78.8
1931	12,115,291	50,356,550	83.9	83.6
1930	20,321,160	66,792,498	111.2	95.5
1929	24,185,738	96,792,675	161.2	99.4
1928	27,515,522	79,285,027	132.0	95.8
1927	20,138,657	62,479,480	104.1	96.1
1926	18,504,296	60,042,369	100.0	101.3
1925	15,520,435	50,983,833	84.9	103.1
1924	14,807,589	46,544,689	77.5	111.3
1923	18,937,638	57,946,608	96.5	111.1
1922	19,527,061	54,040,922	90.0	107.9
1921	14,460,878	41,530,750	69.2	134.4
1920	13,082,015	47,640,916	79.3	144.7

As already mentioned, the aggregate for the first five months of 1939 was very slightly lower than in the same period in 1938, and was also less than in 1937. The average index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials were also rather lower than in 1937 or 1938.

Table 1 gives the value of the building permits issued by 58 cities during April and May, 1939, and May, 1938. The 35 cities for which records are available since 1910 are marked thus, "x".

Estimated Value of Construction Work as Indicated by Building Permits Issued by 58 Cities.

Cities	May, 1939	April, 1939	May, 1938
	\$	\$	\$
P.E.I.- Charlottetown	13,000	-	9,900
Nova Scotia	174,067	87,865	159,484
x Halifax	97,547	46,800	122,379
New Glasgow	9,240	4,175	2,145
x Sydney	67,280	36,890	34,960
New Brunswick	156,095	87,630	132,379
Fredericton	34,400	2,000	18,950
x Moncton	45,985	73,250	40,838
x Saint John	75,710	12,380	72,591
Quebec	1,997,466	2,003,415	1,235,455
x Montreal - x Maisonneuve	1,078,494	761,375	742,105
x Quebec	135,102	1,002,720	273,730
Shawinigan Falls	202,200	22,250	66,050
x Sherbrooke	273,900	166,550	78,200
x Three Rivers	215,615	29,250	57,570
x Westmount	92,155	21,270	17,800
Ontario	2,497,026	2,011,521	2,757,027
Belleville	18,250	3,455	5,400
x Brantford	14,395	97,020	23,050
Chatham	34,190	46,700	28,300
x Fort William	54,053	89,435	87,710
Galt	40,983	47,773	27,120
x Guelph	32,156	13,075	15,860
x Hamilton	230,565	275,313	148,738
x Kingston	40,473	36,848	43,640
x Kitchener	76,784	58,842	93,543
x London	75,825	104,960	112,425
Niagara Falls	33,845	7,890	11,380
Oshawa	62,865	10,500	15,960
x Ottawa	319,520	189,040	280,345
Owen Sound	5,420	5,570	9,680
x Peterborough	125,537	26,642	33,542
x Port Arthur	59,652	53,110	278,893
x Stratford	4,695	11,365	3,680
x St. Catharines	28,630	168,910	32,480
x St. Thomas	8,014	12,545	21,737
Sarnia	42,954	3,870	23,945
Sault Ste. Marie	51,742	73,150	35,200
x Toronto	810,845	514,467	1,001,904
York & East York Townships	209,430	92,545	274,385
Welland	19,390	29,875	12,239
x Windsor	65,136	27,955	118,588
Riverdale	8,270	6,450	10,860
Woodstock	23,407	4,216	6,423
Manitoba	348,506	330,760	229,120
x Brandon	38,965	4,075	5,400
St. Boniface	30,691	29,235	32,070
x Winnipeg	278,850	297,450	191,650
Saskatchewan	77,530	41,229	40,576
x Moose Jaw	6,774	3,875	2,773
x Regina	40,212	35,344	31,153
x Saskatoon	30,544	2,010	6,650
Alberta	366,911	474,060	233,702
x Calgary	166,319	196,190	55,657
x Edmonton	150,315	173,165	146,685
Lethbridge	46,137	104,705	30,960
Medicine Hat	4,140	Nil	400
British Columbia	760,178	900,326	1,801,675
Kamloops	6,651	10,555	2,250
Nanaimo	7,896	4,420	8,650
x New Westminster	55,005	64,660	58,450
Prince Rupert	5,200	12,195	630
x Vancouver	600,410	750,155	1,612,045
North Vancouver	12,275	15,140	11,330
x Victoria	72,741	43,201	108,320
Total - 58 Cities	6,390,779	5,936,806	6,599,318
Total - x 35 Cities	5,468,203	5,400,137	5,955,091

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Minister of Trade and Commerce

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
GENERAL STATISTICS BRANCH
OTTAWA - CANADA.

Issued July 21, 1939.

Dominion Statistician: R. H. Coats, LL.D., F.R.S.C., F.S.S. (Hon.)
In Charge Employment Statistics: M. E. K. Roughsedge.

BUILDING PERMITS FOR JUNE, 1939, WITH COMPARATIVE
STATEMENTS FOR MAY, 1939, AND JUNE, 1938, AND
CUMULATIVE FIGURES FOR FIRST HALF-YEAR, 1920-1939.

The value of the building represented by the permits for construction taken out in 58 cities during June was greater than in the same month in any other year since 1931. Amounting to \$7,581,492, the authorizations showed an increase of \$1,190,713, or 18.6 p.c. over the May, 1939, figure of \$6,390,779, and exceeded by \$1,004,018 or 15.3 p.c., the aggregate for June, 1938, when the permits issued were for construction work estimated to cost \$6,577,474.

The value of the building authorized in these centres in the first six months of the present year was estimated at \$26,861,062, or \$1,008,493 more than in the same period of 1938; the 1939 total was also higher than in the first half of any other year since 1931, with the exception of 1937. The aggregate for the months, January-June of each of these years, however, was considerably less than in preceding years of the record. The wholesale prices of building materials have been lower in the first half of 1939 than in the same period of 1938 or 1937; while the average index was higher than in January-June in any of the preceding six years, it was below the average for the years since 1920.

Some 50 cities furnished detailed statistics for June, 1939, showing that they had issued nearly 800 permits for dwellings valued at approximately \$2,200,000 and some 3000 permits for other buildings, estimated to cost almost \$4,700,000. In May, authority was given for the erection of about 750 dwellings and 3,000 other buildings, valued at approximately \$2,800,000 and \$3,000,000, respectively.

All provinces except Prince Edward Island recorded increases in the value of the building permits issued during June as compared with the preceding month, the largest gain, of \$451,299, or 129.5, taking place in Manitoba.

As compared with June, 1938, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan and Alberta reported increases, of which that of \$1,135,734, or 113.7 p.c. in Quebec was largest. In Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Manitoba and British Columbia, there were reductions in this comparison, the greatest, of \$181,621, or 14.5 p.c., being in British Columbia.

Of the four largest cities, Montreal and Winnipeg recorded increases in the value of the building represented by the permits taken out in June as compared with the preceding month, and with the same month of last year. Vancouver showed a gain in the first, but a decrease in the second comparison, while in Toronto, the June total was smaller than in either May, 1939, or June, 1938. Among the other centres, the following showed improvement in each of these comparisons: Sydney, Saint John, Quebec, Three Rivers, Brantford, Hamilton, St. Thomas, Sault Ste. Marie, York and East York Townships, Welland, Riverside, Woodstock, Saskatoon, Calgary, Lethbridge, Kamloops, New Westminster and Victoria.

CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR FIRST HALF-YEAR, 1920-1939.

The following table gives the value of the building authorized by 58 cities during June and in the first six months of each year since 1920, as well as index numbers for the latter, based upon the total for 1926 as 100. The average index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials in the first six months of the same years are also given.

Year	Value of permits issued in June \$	Value of permits issued in first six months \$	Indexes of value of permits issued in first six months (1926=100)	Average indexes of wholesale prices of building materials in first six months (1926 average =100)
1939	7,581,492	26,861,062	34.1	87.5
1938	6,577,474	25,852,569	32.8	90.4
1937	6,005,958	28,056,942	35.6	94.9
1936	4,656,689	18,322,884	23.3	84.4
1935	5,104,855	24,640,511	33.8	81.2
1934	2,411,460	10,411,377	13.2	82.8
1933	3,589,204	10,315,899	13.1	78.9
1932	5,028,324	24,341,044	30.9	76.8
1931	8,593,958	58,950,508	74.8	83.5
1930	18,621,487	85,413,985	108.4	95.0
1929	27,816,592	124,609,267	158.2	99.2
1928	22,751,960	102,036,987	129.6	95.9
1927	18,363,239	80,842,719	102.6	96.0
1926	18,718,050	78,760,419	100.0	101.0
1925	14,915,884	65,899,717	83.7	103.1
1924	13,967,006	60,674,154	77.0	110.8
1923	14,286,252	73,047,496	92.7	111.4
1922	17,052,582	71,281,674	90.5	108.0
1921	14,240,934	55,771,684	70.7	132.0
1920	14,113,794	61,754,710	78.4	144.5

The value of the building represented by the construction permits issued by 58 cities was higher than in 1938, and was also greater than in the same period in other years since 1931, except 1937. As already stated, the aggregate for January-June in each of the last eight years has been decidedly lower than in any other year since 1920, being also much below the nineteen-years' average. As compared with 1938, there has been a decline of 2.9 points in the index number of wholesale prices of building materials, the mean for the first half of 1939 being also below the average for the period, 1920-1938.

The provincial totals for the first half of the years, 1935-1939, are shown in the following table. The aggregates in New Brunswick, Quebec Manitoba and Saskatchewan were higher in 1939 than in 1938, while the New Brunswick and Quebec figures were also greater than in the same months of any other year since 1931. The Manitoba total in 1939 was only twice exceeded in this period, by the January-June aggregate in

1935 and in 1932; that for Saskatchewan was higher than in other years since 1931, except 1937, 1933 and 1932. In Ontario, the estimated cost of the building authorized in the first half of the present year was lower than in 1938, 1937, 1935 and 1932, but was greater than in 1936, 1934 and 1933. Alberta showed improvement over the corresponding months in any year in the period, 1937-1933, but the 1939 figure was lower than in 1938 or 1932. In British Columbia and Nova Scotia, the value of the building represented by the permits taken out was lower than in either 1938 or 1937, but the totals for the first six months of 1939 considerably exceeded those for any other year since 1931.

PROVINCIAL TOTALS OF BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED BY 58 CITIES
IN THE FIRST HALF-YEAR, 1935-1939.

Provinces	1939	1938	1937	1936	1935
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Pr. Ed. Island	26,550	38,310	101,140	70,600	96,325
Nova Scotia	681,910	847,668	827,709	597,255	324,295
New Brunswick	458,075	360,316	287,433	85,011	141,017
Quebec	7,557,160	4,725,189	5,418,604	3,894,008	5,873,941
Ontario	10,003,079	10,344,723	13,901,771	7,883,866	12,678,819
Manitoba	1,646,933	1,517,750	1,058,013	664,830	2,355,065
Saskatchewan	368,128	303,984	469,005	238,832	233,030
Alberta	1,509,114	1,787,462	923,590	1,095,038	1,162,981
Br. Columbia	4,610,113	5,927,167	5,069,677	3,095,038	1,775,038
Canada	26,861,062	25,852,569	28,056,942	18,322,884	24,640,511

The following shows the January-June aggregate for the four leading cities in the last five years:-

City	1939	1938	1937	1936	1935
Montreal	\$ 4,038,084	\$3,185,464	\$3,923,810	\$ 2,297,855	\$4,421,415
Toronto	3,529,258	3,816,855	4,219,755	3,166,190	5,315,395
Winnipeg	1,449,250	763,350	963,400	618,100	2,262,450
Vancouver	3,491,680	4,684,760	4,377,055	3,050,825	1,331,880
Total	12,508,272	12,450,429	13,484,020	9,134,970	13,331,140

The estimated value of the building represented by the permits granted in Montreal and Winnipeg during the first six months of 1939 was larger than that for the same period of 1938, while Toronto and Vancouver showed decreases as compared with last year. Approximately 47 p.c. of the total value of the building permits issued by the 58 cities in the months, January-June, of the present year was reported by the four largest centres, practically the same proportion as in 1938 and 1937.

The table on the following page gives the value of the building permits issued by 58 cities during May and June, 1939, and June, 1938. The 35 cities for which records are available since 1910 are marked thus "x".

Estimated Value of Construction Work as Indicated by Building Permits
Issued by 58 Cities.

Cities	June 1939	May 1939	June 1938
	\$	\$	\$
P.E.I.- Charlottetown	9,050	13,000	13,210
Nova Scotia	184,522	174,067	255,453
x Halifax	97,907	97,547	207,998
New Glasgow	3,275	9,240	4,410
x Sydney	83,340	67,280	43,045
New Brunswick	175,405	156,095	117,080
Fredericton	1,900	34,400	22,325
x Moncton	1/ -	45,985	71,205
x Saint John	173,505	75,710	23,550
Quebec	2,134,283	1,997,466	998,549
x Montreal - x Maisonneuve	1,139,215	1,078,494	686,734
x Quebec	204,013	135,102	136,295
Shawinigan Falls	45,200	202,200	41,795
x Sherbrooke	144,500	273,900	61,600
x Three Rivers	537,390	215,615	53,075
x Westmount	63,965	92,155	19,050
Ontario	2,676,643	2,497,026	2,654,515
Belleville	18,100	18,250	8,815
x Brantford	22,835	14,395	19,890
Chatham	28,375	34,190	18,575
x Fort William	61,353	54,053	228,465
Galt	30,289	40,983	29,192
x Guelph	26,532	32,156	48,510
x Hamilton	281,559	230,565	165,994
x Kingston	67,779	40,473	86,055
x Kitchener	48,018	76,784	50,330
x London	85,890	75,825	99,315
Niagara Falls	23,890	33,845	154,830
Oshawa	24,905	62,865	8,215
x Ottawa	232,790	319,520	195,575
Owen Sound	4,235	5,420	8,585
x Peterborough	42,921	125,537	35,820
x Port Arthur	68,557	59,652	151,269
x Stratford	6,342	4,695	9,938
x St. Catharines	28,536	28,630	45,463
x St. Thomas	31,640	8,014	21,800
Sarnia	35,407	42,954	29,813
Sault Ste. Marie	77,550	51,742	24,340
x Toronto	762,989	810,845	1,052,893
York & East York Townships	339,070	209,430	93,524
Welland	22,792	19,390	17,867
x Windsor	60,524	65,136	26,279
Riverside	30,550	8,270	6,025
Woodstock	213,215	23,407	17,138
Manitoba	799,805	348,506	868,755
x Brandon	2,100	38,965	2,850
St. Boniface	67,605	30,691	663,905
x Winnipeg	730,100	278,850	202,000
Saskatchewan	149,370	77,530	115,395
x Moose Jaw	5,125	6,774	9,155
x Regina	83,655	40,212	100,010
x Saskatoon	60,590	30,544	6,230
Alberta	383,926	366,911	304,408
x Calgary	174,401	166,319	58,388
x Edmonton	143,175	150,315	230,795
Lethbridge	66,225	46,137	13,675
Medicine Hat	125	4,140	1,550
British Columbia	1,068,488	760,178	1,250,109
Kamloops	16,403	6,651	2,575
Nanaimo	5,954	7,896	30,475
x New Westminster	73,910	55,005	45,700
Prince Rupert	1,175	5,200	116,169
x Vancouver	864,265	600,410	989,940
North Vancouver	5,615	12,275	9,625
x Victoria	101,166	72,741	55,625
Total - 58 Cities	7,581,492	6,390,779	6,577,474
Total - x35 Cities	6,510,587	5,468,203	5,240,841

1/ Report not received in time for tabulation.

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Dominion Statistician:	R. H. Coats, LL.D., F.R.S.C., F.S.S. (Hon.)
In Charge Employment Statistics:	M. E. K. Roughsedge.

BUILDING PERMITS FOR JULY, 1939, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS FOR JUNE, 1939,
AND JULY, 1938, AND CUMULATIVE FIGURES FOR FIRST SEVEN MONTHS, 1920-1939.

The value of the building represented by the permits taken out in 58 cities during July stood at \$6,535,813, a seasonal decline of \$1,296,429, or 16.6 p.c. as compared with the revised total of \$7,832,242 for June, 1939. However, there was an increase of \$420,970, or 6.9 p.c. in the more significant comparison with the July, 1938, aggregate of \$6,114,843.

The building authorized in the first seven months of the present year was estimated to cost \$33,647,625; this was 4.9 p.c. higher than the aggregate of \$32,067,412 reported in the period January - July, 1938, and was also higher than in the first seven months of any other year since 1931. The cumulative total for the January-July period in each of the last eight years has been very much lower than in earlier years of the record, being also considerably less than the nineteen-year average of \$67,390,114. The wholesale prices of building materials have recently been lower than in the same months of either 1937 or 1938; while they have been rather higher than in January-July of the six years immediately preceding, they continue below the average for this period in the years since 1919.

Some 50 cities furnished detailed statistics for July, 1939, showing that they had issued more than 700 permits for dwellings valued at over \$2,250,000, and about 2,400 permits for other buildings estimated at some \$3,395,000. In June, authority was given for the erection of about 800 dwellings and 3,000 other buildings, estimated to cost approximately \$2,200,000 and \$4,700,000, respectively.

As compared with June, 1939, there was an increase of \$25,250, or 279 p.c., in Prince Edward Island, and of \$146,050, or 97.8 p.c., in Saskatchewan. The remaining provinces recorded declines, of which those of \$348,091, or 81.7 p.c., in New Brunswick and \$534,285, or 66.8 p.c., in Manitoba were most pronounced.

Increases over July, 1938, were reported in Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan and Alberta. The largest gain was that of \$917,876, or 87.1 p.c., in Quebec, while the greatest reduction was that of \$789,853, or 45.5 p.c., in British Columbia.

Of the four largest cities, Montreal and Toronto showed improvement in July, 1939, as compared with either June, 1939, or July, 1938, but in Winnipeg and Vancouver, there were declines in both comparisons.

Of the other centres, Charlottetown, Halifax, Fredericton, Quebec, Westmount, Belleville, Guelph, London, Oshawa, Stratford, St. Catharines, St. Thomas, Windsor, Brandon, Moose Jaw, Regina and Medicine Hat showed gains over the preceding month and also as compared with the same month of last year.

CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR FIRST SEVEN MONTHS, 1920-1939.

The following table gives the value of the building authorized by 58 cities during July, and in the first seven months of each year since 1920, as well as index numbers for the latter, based upon the January-July total in 1926 as 100. The average index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials in the first seven months of the years since 1920 are also given, (1926 average = 100).

Year	Value of permits issued in July	Value of permits issued in first seven months	Indexes of value of permits issued in first seven months (1926=100)	Average indexes of wholesale prices of building materials in first seven months (1926 average =100)
1939	\$6,535,813	\$33,647,625	34.5	87.5
1938	6,114,843	32,067,412	32.9	90.2
1937	5,529,295	33,586,237	34.5	95.9
1936	5,029,802	23,352,686	24.0	84.5
1935	4,396,402	29,036,913	29.8	81.8
1934	3,257,470	13,668,847	14.0	82.8
1933	2,180,403	12,496,302	12.7	76.5
1932	4,412,169	28,753,213	29.5	78.1
1931	11,042,609	69,993,717	71.8	83.3
1930	15,824,781	101,238,766	103.9	94.2
1929	22,702,584	147,311,851	151.2	99.2
1928	25,761,956	127,798,943	131.2	96.2
1927	16,369,195	97,211,914	99.8	96.1
1926	18,683,415	97,443,834	100.0	100.8
1925	12,812,603	78,712,320	80.8	103.1
1924	11,681,196	72,355,350	74.3	109.8
1923	13,078,547	86,126,043	88.4	111.7
1922	15,740,810	87,022,484	89.3	108.3
1921	10,965,891	66,737,575	68.5	130.2
1920	13,743,045	75,497,755	77.5	144.2

The aggregate for the first seven months of this year, as already mentioned, was 4.9 p.c. higher than the corresponding figure for 1938, and was also slightly greater than in 1937, when the building authorized was higher in value than in any preceding year since 1931. The average index number of wholesale prices of building materials was rather lower than in the same months of 1937 or 1938; it was also below the average for the last nineteen years, although it exceeded the January-July figure in any of the years, 1931-1936.

The table on page 3 gives the value of the building permits issued by 58 cities during June and July, 1939, and July, 1938; the 35 cities for which records are available since 1910 are marked thus "x".

Estimated Value of Construction Work as Indicated by Building Permits Issued by 58 Cities.

Cities	July 1939	June 1939	July 1938
P.E.I. - Charlottetown	\$ 34,300	\$ 9,050	\$ 10,250
Nova Scotia	180,042	184,522	125,507
x Halifax	121,482	97,907	58,792
New Glasgow	6,865	3,275	7,590
x Sydney	51,695	83,340	59,125
New Brunswick	78,064	1/ 426,155	58,517
Fredericton	10,090	1,900	3,200
x Moncton	7,750	1/ 250,750	26,780
x Saint John	60,224	173,505	28,537
Quebec	1,971,851	2,134,283	1,053,975
x Montreal - x Maisonneuve	1,524,668	1,139,215	712,167
x Quebec	217,831	204,013	103,452
Shawinigan Falls	27,275	45,200	30,425
x Sherbrooke	81,100	144,500	149,500
x Three Rivers	35,645	537,390	28,595
x Westmount	85,332	63,965	29,836
Ontario	2,485,414	2,676,643	2,397,123
Belleville	22,200	18,100	6,100
x Brantford	18,780	22,835	16,425
Chatham	22,600	28,375	173,552
x Fort William	36,506	61,353	40,775
Galt	18,547	30,289	40,479
x Guelph	46,845	26,532	14,095
x Hamilton	233,260	281,559	123,946
x Kingston	58,389	67,779	53,430
x Kitchener	75,544	48,018	84,571
x London	117,860	85,890	42,705
Niagara Falls	17,038	23,890	5,672
Oshawa	49,395	24,905	9,480
x Ottawa	145,795	232,790	407,595
Owen Sound	10,800	4,235	11,635
x Peterborough	35,163	42,921	77,383
x Port Arthur	52,498	68,557	60,432
x Stratford	13,935	6,342	4,671
x St. Catharines	37,405	28,536	30,300
x St. Thomas	38,895	31,640	13,266
Sarnia	24,490	35,407	23,710
Sault Ste. Marie	56,770	77,550	31,650
x Toronto	914,361	762,989	772,273
York & East York Townships	196,245	339,070	181,015
Welland	21,940	22,792	11,438
x Windsor	171,950	60,524	147,118
Riverside	19,100	30,550	1,175
Woodstock	29,103	213,215	12,232
Manitoba	265,520	799,805	452,295
x Brandon	4,880	2,100	3,950
St. Boniface	51,340	67,605	94,395
x Winnipeg	209,300	730,100	353,950
Saskatchewan	295,420	149,370	58,098
x Moose Jaw	7,335	5,125	3,145
x Regina	241,235	83,655	20,793
x Saskatoon	46,850	60,590	34,160
Alberta	279,550	383,926	223,573
x Calgary	77,984	174,401	35,713
x Edmonton	160,935	143,175	168,555
Lethbridge	40,131	66,225	19,305
Medicine Hat	500	125	Nil
British Columbia	945,652	1,068,488	1,735,505
Kamloops	12,025	16,403	2,520
Nanaimo	19,843	5,954	20,572
x New Westminster	53,925	73,910	74,577
Prince Rupert	1,300	1,175	3,200
x Vancouver	793,785	864,265	1,566,800
North Vancouver	3,655	5,615	5,500
x Victoria	61,119	101,166	62,336
Total - 58 Cities	6,535,813	1/ 7,832,242	6,114,843
Total - x 35 Cities	5,840,261	1/ 6,761,337	5,409,748

Revised to include Moncton figure.

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In Charge Employment Statistics:	M. E. K. Roughsedge

BUILDING PERMITS FOR AUGUST, 1939, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS FOR JULY, 1939,
AND AUGUST, 1938, AND CUMULATIVE FIGURES FOR FIRST EIGHT MONTHS, 1920-1939.

The value of the building permits issued by 58 cities during August, 1939, was slightly less than in the preceding month, but was rather greater than in August of last year; during the month under review, these municipalities authorized building estimated to cost \$6,159,468, as compared with \$6,535,813 in July, 1939, and \$5,829,984 in August, 1938. There was, therefore, a decrease of 5.8 p.c. in the first comparison, but an increase of 5.7 p.c. in the second and more significant comparison. The August, 1939, figure was the highest for that month in any year since 1931.

The value of the building represented by the permits taken out in the first eight months of the present year was \$39,807,093; this total showed a gain over that of \$37,897,396 reported in the period, January-August, 1938, while the cumulative total in the present year was also higher than in the first eight months of any other year since 1931. However, the estimated cost of the construction work undertaken in each of these years has been very much lower than in earlier years of the record, being also below the nineteen-year average of \$77,933,300 for the period, January-August. The wholesale prices of building materials have recently been lower than in the same months of either 1937 or 1938; while they have been rather higher than in January-August in any of the six years immediately preceding, they continue below the average in the years since 1919.

Some 50 cities furnished detailed statistics showing that they had issued over 700 permits for dwellings estimated to cost about \$2,250,000, and more than 2,200 permits for other buildings valued at approximately \$3,275,000. During July, authority was granted for the erection of some 700 dwellings and 2,400 other buildings, estimated at about \$2,250,000 and \$3,395,000, respectively.

As compared with July, 1939, Ontario, Manitoba and Alberta reported gains, that of \$318,183 or 113.8 p.c., in Alberta being most pronounced. Of the reductions elsewhere indicated, those of \$531,245, or 26.9 p.c., in Quebec, and \$211,520, or 71.6 p.c., in Saskatchewan were most pronounced.

Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta reported higher aggregates of building authorizations than in August of last year; the greatest increase was in Alberta, where there was a gain of \$324,304 or 118.6 p.c. The remaining provinces showed losses in this comparison; that of \$144,319 in Ontario was the largest actual decrease while the decline of \$45,929 or 50.5 p.c., in New Brunswick was proportionately the greatest.

Of the four largest cities, Toronto and Winnipeg showed an increase as compared with July, 1939, and also over August, 1938, while Montreal and Vancouver reported reductions in both comparisons. Of the other centres, New Glasgow, Fredericton, Quebec, Shawinigan Falls, Sherbrooke, Three Rivers, Belleville, Fort William, Kingston, Kitchener, Peterborough, Sarnia, York Townships, Welland, Edmonton, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat, Prince Rupert and North Vancouver recorded gains in both comparisons.

CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR FIRST EIGHT MONTHS, 1920-1939.

The following table gives the value of the building authorized by 58 cities during August, and in the first eight months of each year since 1920, as well as index numbers for the latter, based on the January-August total in 1926 as 100. The average index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials in the first eight months of the years since 1920 are also given, (average 1926=100).

Year	Value of permits issued in July	Value of permits issued in first eight months	Indexes of value of permits issued in first eight months (1926=100)	Average indexes of wholesale prices of building materials in first eight months (1926 average =100)
1939	\$6,159,468	39,807,093	36.4	88.1
1938	5,829,984	37,897,396	34.7	90.2
1937	4,262,966	37,849,203	34.7	95.4
1936	3,673,455	27,026,141	24.7	84.6
1935	4,311,968	33,348,881	30.5	81.2
1934	3,764,425	17,433,272	16.0	82.8
1933	1,910,809	14,407,111	13.2	77.0
1932	3,823,251	32,576,464	29.8	77.7
1931	8,201,879	78,194,996	71.6	83.0
1930	14,029,564	115,268,330	105.5	93.4
1929	21,582,221	168,894,072	154.6	99.2
1928	17,448,542	145,247,485	133.0	96.4
1927	29,478,378	126,690,292	116.0	96.2
1926	11,672,599	109,211,942	100.0	100.7
1925	9,511,008	88,223,328	80.8	103.1
1924	9,406,733	81,762,083	74.9	109.0
1923	11,425,031	97,551,074	89.3	111.8
1922	18,158,932	105,181,416	96.3	108.4
1921	10,928,039	77,665,614	71.1	128.6
1920	10,805,846	86,303,601	79.0	143.8

The aggregate for the first eight months of this year was higher by five p.c. than in 1938, and also exceeded that for the same period in any of the preceding six years. While the index of wholesale prices of building materials was lower than in 1938 or 1937, it was higher than in any of the years, 1931-1936; it was, however, lower than in earlier years since 1919.

The table on page 3 gives the value of building permits issued by 58 cities during July and August, 1939, and August, 1938. The 35 cities for which records are available since 1920 are marked thus "x".

Estimated Value of Construction Work as Indicated by Building Permits Issued by 58 Cities.

Cities	August, 1939	July, 1939	August, 1938
	\$	\$	\$
P.E.I. - Charlottetown	19,300	34,300	14,950
Nova Scotia	153,925	180,042	166,696
x Halifax	117,075	121,482	125,502
New Glasgow	15,275	6,865	5,190
x Sydney	21,575	51,695	36,004
New Brunswick	45,014	78,064	90,943
Fredericton	19,850	10,090	10,125
x Moncton	5,995	7,750	64,470
x Saint John	19,169	60,224	16,348
Quebec	1,440,606	1,971,851	1,277,664
x Montreal - x Maisonneuve	873,613	1,524,668	984,719
x Quebec	341,958	217,831	209,325
Shawinigan Falls	44,475	27,275	1,175
x Sherbrooke	125,000	81,100	37,100
x Three Rivers	38,960	35,645	23,375
x Westmount	16,600	85,332	21,970
Ontario	2,696,438	2,485,414	2,840,757
Belleville	134,166	22,200	12,350
x Brantford	4,580	18,780	32,325
Chatham	20,085	22,600	79,500
x Fort William	66,498	36,506	33,240
Galt	10,441	18,547	33,875
x Guelph	11,771	46,845	8,511
x Hamilton	178,596	233,260	144,007
x Kingston	58,465	58,389	47,958
x Kitchener	79,044	75,544	55,389
x London	106,605	117,860	65,425
Niagara Falls	14,165	17,038	3,920
Oshawa	13,230	49,395	10,730
x Ottawa	147,915	145,795	689,905
Owen Sound	13,150	10,800	88,298
x Peterborough	117,570	35,163	32,173
x Port Arthur	72,264	52,498	104,516
x Stratford	10,635	13,935	6,766
x St. Catharines	70,985	37,405	109,855
x St. Thomas	20,865	38,895	14,552
Sarnia	29,730	24,490	5,960
Sault Ste. Marie	52,210	56,770	72,075
x Toronto	1,027,653	914,361	871,664
York & East York Townships	256,365	196,245	211,970
Welland	44,605	21,940	22,461
x Windsor	110,548	171,950	48,508
Riverside	12,350	19,100	25,350
Woodstock	11,947	29,103	9,474
Manitoba	358,903	265,520	230,270
x Brandon	3,925	4,880	3,255
St. Boniface	40,128	51,340	25,215
x Winnipeg	314,850	209,300	201,800
Saskatchewan	83,900	295,420	49,216
x Moose Jaw	6,125	7,335	1,969
x Regina	61,150	241,235	15,297
x Saskatoon	16,625	46,850	31,950
Alberta	597,733	279,550	273,429
x Calgary	57,898	77,984	66,134
x Edmonton	487,490	160,935	163,375
Lethbridge	50,870	40,131	42,950
Medicine Hat	1,475	500	970
British Columbia	763,649	945,652	886,059
Kamloops	10,425	12,025	425
Nanaimo	870	19,843	Nil
x New Westminster	64,275	53,925	96,440
Prince Rupert	4,080	1,300	3,450
x Vancouver	609,280	793,785	687,120
North Vancouver	20,340	3,655	3,615
x Victoria	54,379	61,119	95,003
Total - 58 Cities	6,159,468	6,535,813	5,829,984
Total - x 35 Cities	5,319,936	5,840,261	5,145,956



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In Charge Employment Statistics: M. E. K. Roughsedge.

BUILDING PERMITS FOR SEPTEMBER, 1939, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS FOR AUGUST, 1939,
AND SEPTEMBER, 1938, AND CUMULATIVE FIGURES FOR FIRST NINE MONTHS, 1920-1939.

The value of the building authorized in 58 cities during September was estimated at \$4,104,401; this was a decrease of \$2,055,067 or 33.4 p.c. from the total of \$6,159,468 reported in August, 1939, and of \$1,181,596 or 22.4 p.c., in comparison with September of last year, when the permits granted represented building estimated to cost \$5,285,997.

The value of the building authorized in the first nine months of the present year was \$43,911,494; this slightly exceeded the aggregate of \$43,183,393 recorded in the period January-September, 1938, and that of \$42,960,983 in 1937, while it was decidedly higher than in the first nine months in any other year since 1931. However, the cumulative total for the same period in each of these years has been very much lower than in earlier years for which data are available. The wholesale prices of building materials have recently been lower than in the same months of either 1937 or 1938, although they continue higher than in any of the years, 1931-1936.

Some 50 cities furnished detailed statistics for September, showing that they had issued more than 450 permits for dwellings estimated to cost approximately \$1,500,000, and about 2,100 permits for other buildings valued at about \$2,290,000. During August, permits were granted for the erection of about 700 dwellings and 2,200 other buildings, estimated to cost approximately \$2,250,000 and \$3,275,000, respectively.

All provinces reported decreases in the value of the building authorized as compared with August, 1939, those of \$532,833, or 40.5 p.c., in Quebec and \$609,574, or 22.6 p.c., in Ontario being the largest actual losses, while the greatest proportionate decline was that of \$300,720, or 50.3 p.c., in Alberta.

Improvement as compared with September, 1938, was reported in Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick and Ontario, the gain of \$558,107, or 36.5 p.c., in Ontario being considerable. Of the reductions elsewhere recorded in this comparison, that of \$1,036,682, or 54.7 p.c., in Quebec was most pronounced.

Of the larger cities, Montreal, Winnipeg and Vancouver showed lower totals of authorized building than in either August, 1939, or September, 1938, while in Toronto, there was a decline in the first comparison, but an increase over September of last year. Of the other centres, Chatham, London, Oshawa, Ottawa, Kamloops and Prince Rupert recorded increases as compared with either August, 1939, or September, 1938.

CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR FIRST NINE MONTHS, 1939.

The following table gives the value of the building authorized by 58 cities during September, and in the first nine months of each year since 1920, as well as index numbers for the latter, based upon the total for the corresponding period of 1926 as 100. The average index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials in the period, January-September, of the years since 1920 are also given, (average 1926=100).

Year	Value of permits issued in September	Value of permits issued in first nine months	Indexes of value of permits issued in first nine months (1926=100)	Average indexes of wholesale prices of building materials in first nine months, (Average 1926=100)
1939	\$4,104,401	\$43,911,494	36.5	88.1
1938	5,285,997	43,183,393	35.9	90.2
1937	5,111,780	42,960,983	35.8	95.2
1936	3,657,271	30,683,412	25.5	84.8
1935	3,672,845	36,680,796	30.5	81.2
1934	2,281,874	19,715,146	16.5	82.8
1933	1,986,903	16,394,014	13.6	77.5
1932	2,449,735	35,026,199	29.1	77.6
1931	10,407,999	88,602,995	73.7	82.7
1930	11,093,020	126,361,350	105.2	92.7
1929	17,117,017	186,011,017	154.8	99.2
1928	20,374,149	165,621,634	137.8	96.7
1927	14,462,243	141,152,535	117.5	96.3
1926	11,047,503	120,163,936	100.0	100.7
1925	10,140,853	98,364,181	81.9	103.1
1924	15,055,250	96,817,333	80.6	108.2
1923	10,768,898	108,319,972	90.1	111.8
1922	11,597,034	116,778,450	97.2	108.5
1921	10,907,828	88,573,442	73.7	126.8
1920	9,842,677	96,146,278	80.0	144.2

The aggregate for the first nine months of this year was slightly higher than in 1938 or 1937, and substantially exceeded that for the same period in any of the preceding five years. While the average index number of wholesale prices of building materials was lower than in 1938 or 1937, it was rather higher than in preceding years since 1930.

The table on page 5 gives the value of the building permits issued by 58 cities during August and September, 1939, and September, 1938. The 35 cities for which data are available since 1910 are marked thus "x".

Estimated Value of Construction Work as Indicated by Building Permits Issued by 53 Cities.

C I T I E S	September 1939	August 1939	September, 1938
	\$	\$	\$
P.E.I.- Charlottetown	18,900	19,300	2,800
Nova Scotia	102,351	153,981	213,793
x Halifax	62,046	117,071	115,568
New Glasgow	1,600	15,275	3,175
x Sydney	38,705	21,575	95,050
New Brunswick	22,961	45,014	22,530
Fredericton	5,500	19,850	4,200
x Moncton	- 1/	5,995	5,015
x Saint John	17,461	19,189	13,375
Quebec	857,773	1,440,606	1,894,455
x Montreal - x Maisonneuve	563,683	873,613	1,051,333
x Quebec	158,435	341,953	220,982
Shawinigan Falls	14,475	44,475	12,785
x Sherbrooke	56,250	125,000	30,800
x Three Rivers	38,425	38,960	438,180
x Westmount	26,505	16,600	139,870
Ontario	2,086,864	2,696,423	1,528,757
Belleville	26,400	134,166	35,525
x Brantford	1,292	4,580	32,410
Chatham	227,128	20,085	20,400
x Fort William	51,720	66,498	49,055
Galt	8,586	10,441	32,514
x Guelph	7,210	11,771	7,803
x Hamilton	129,012	178,536	134,680
x Kingston	18,447	58,405	13,628
x Kitchener	45,801	79,044	115,592
x London	250,610	106,605	41,050
Niagara Falls	6,245	14,125	11,885
Oshawa	17,910	13,250	12,625
x Ottawa	283,320	147,915	133,244
Owen Sound	5,589	15,150	3,375
x Peterborough	38,039	117,370	77,039
x Port Arthur	26,498	72,234	46,720
x Stratford	4,815	10,655	7,590
x St. Catharines	56,093	70,935	12,990
x St. Thomas	11,040	20,865	12,241
Sarnia	17,860	29,730	7,058
Sault Ste. Marie	40,800	52,210	56,000
x Toronto	507,038	1,027,653	434,857
York & East York Townships	192,672	256,365	99,275
Welland	17,900	44,605	15,000
x Windsor	79,747	110,548	31,441
Riverside	1,480	12,350	3,885
Woodstock	13,612	11,947	20,855
Manitoba	137,725	358,903	226,085
x Brandon	2,970	3,925	7,050
St. Boniface	28,755	40,123	15,135
x Winnipeg	106,000	314,850	203,900
Saskatchewan	37,704	83,900	152,659
x Moose Jaw	5,625	6,125	9,350
x Regina	12,794	61,150	59,784
x Saskatoon	19,285	16,625	83,525
Alberta	297,013	597,733	630,805
x Calgary	110,771	57,838	450,174
x Edmonton	174,045	487,490	157,865
Lethbridge	11,697	50,800	21,241
Medicine Hat	500	1,475	1,525
British Columbia	543,110	763,640	614,053
Kamloops	11,262	10,495	6,177
Nanaimo	15,635	800	3,450
x New Westminster	63,600	64,240	32,315
Prince Rupert	7,500	4,080	550
x Vancouver	402,237	603,280	503,670
North Vancouver	5,800	20,300	1,125
x Victoria	37,076	54,379	60,766
Total - 58 Cities	4,104,401	6,159,463	5,283,097
Total -x 35 Cities	3,406,595	5,319,936	4,889,467

1/ Report not received.

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BUILDING PERMITS FOR OCTOBER, 1939, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER, 1939, AND OCTOBER, 1938, AND CUMULATIVE FIGURES FOR FIRST TEN MONTHS, 1920-1939.

The estimated cost of the building authorized by 58 cities during October was \$5,612,269; this was an increase of \$1,497,818, or 36.4 p.c., as compared with the September total of \$4,114,451, but a decrease of \$3,936,418, or 41.2 p.c., from the exceptionally high figure of \$9,548,687 recorded in October, 1938. Although the estimated value of the building work represented by the permits issued during the month under review was lower than in the same month of last year, it was higher than in any other October since that of 1931.

The value of the construction authorized in the first ten months of the present year was \$49,539,913; this was lower than the aggregate of \$52,732,080 reported in the period, January-October, 1938, but with this exception was the highest recorded in the first ten months of any year since 1931. The cumulative total in each of these years has been substantially lower than in preceding years of the record; the wholesale prices of building materials have recently been lower than in the same period of either 1937 or 1938, although they continue higher than in any of the years, 1931-1936.

Some 50 cities furnished detailed statistics, showing that during October they had issued about 580 permits for dwellings estimated to cost approximately \$1,900,000, and some 2,200 permits for other buildings valued at more than \$3,600,000. During September, authority was granted for the erection of about 450 dwellings and 2,100 other buildings, the estimated cost being approximately \$1,500,000 and \$2,290,000, respectively.

All provinces except Alberta recorded increases in the value of the building authorized as compared with September, 1939, the gains of \$1,003,106, or 48.1 p.c., in Ontario and \$205,509, or 200.8 p.c., in Nova Scotia being greatest. Alberta showed a decrease of \$73,242, or 24.7 p.c., in this comparison.

As compared with October, 1938, there was improvement in Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Manitoba and British Columbia. Nova Scotia showed the most pronounced increase of \$230,403, or 297.5 p.c., while the largest declines in this comparison were those of \$1,886,337, or 66.8 p.c., in Quebec, and \$1,462,574, or 32.1 p.c., in Ontario.

Montreal reported an increase in the value of authorized building as compared with the preceding month, but a decrease as compared with the same month of last year. In Toronto, Winnipeg and Vancouver there was improvement from September, 1939, and also as compared with October, 1938.

Of the other centres, Charlottetown, Halifax, Fredericton, Moncton, Saint John, Fort William, Galt, Guelph, Hamilton, Kingston, Kitchener, London, Niagara Falls, Owen Sound, Sault Ste. Marie, Welland, Brandon, Calgary, Lethbridge and Victoria reported increases over September, 1939, and also as compared with October, 1938.

CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR FIRST TEN MONTHS, 1939.

The following table gives the value of the building authorized by 58 cities during October, and in the first ten months of each year since 1920, as well as index numbers for the latter, based upon the total for 1926 as 100. The average index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials in the first ten months of the years since 1920 are also given (average, 1926=100).

Year	Value of permits issued in October	Value of permits issued in first ten months	Indexes of value of permits issued in first ten months (1926=100)	Average indexes of wholesale prices of building materials in first ten months (average 1926=100)
1939	\$5,612,269	\$49,539,913	36.7	88.1 *
1938	9,548,687	52,732,080	39.1	90.1
1937	4,401,837	47,362,820	35.1	94.9
1936	4,262,607	34,946,019	25.9	85.9
1935	4,030,318	40,711,114	30.2	81.2
1934	2,598,024	22,313,170	16.5	82.8
1933	1,775,052	18,169,066	13.5	77.8
1932	3,170,570	38,196,769	28.3	77.5
1931	8,442,627	97,045,622	71.9	82.4
1930	12,756,402	139,117,752	103.1	92.0
1929	18,073,378	204,084,467	151.3	99.2
1928	21,558,085	187,179,719	138.8	96.8
1927	18,848,019	160,000,554	118.6	96.2
1926	14,738,402	134,902,338	100.0	100.4
1925	11,312,644	109,676,825	81.3	103.0
1924	13,089,588	109,906,921	81.5	107.6
1923	9,999,187	118,319,159	87.7	111.8
1922	10,737,525	127,515,975	94.5	108.5
1921	10,491,228	99,064,670	73.4	125.2
1920	10,401,041	106,547,319	79.0	144.4

As already stated, the aggregate for the months, January to October in 1939, though lower by 6.1 p.c. than in 1938, was higher than in the same period in any of the six years immediately preceding; however, the total for each year since 1931 has been substantially below the average figure of \$97,252,229 reported during the first ten months in the nineteen years, 1920-1938. The average index number of wholesale prices of building materials, though rather lower than in 1937 or 1938, was higher than in preceding years since 1930.

The table on page 3 gives the value of the building permits issued by each of the 53 cities during September and October, 1939, and October, 1938. The 35 cities for which records are available since 1910 are marked thus "x".

* Average for first nine months.

Estimated Value of Construction Work as Indicated by Building Permits Issued by 58 Cities.

C i t i e s	October, 1939	September, 1939	October, 1938
	\$	\$	\$
P.E.I.- Charlottetown	30,438	18,900	22,900
Nova Scotia	307,860	102,351	77,457
x Halifax	273,945	62,046	50,767
New Glasgow	3,915	1,600	4,895
x Sydney	30,000	38,705	21,795
New Brunswick	92,076	33,061*	30,189
Fredericton	30,830	5,500	6,500
x Moncton	22,105	10,100*	12,044
x Saint John	39,141	17,461	11,645
Quebec	935,772	857,723	2,822,109
x Montreal - x Maisonneuve	719,522	563,683	2,185,394
x Quebec	109,675	158,435	427,390
Shawinigan Falls	8,100	14,475	45,775
x Sherbrooke	49,000	56,200	80,350
x Three Rivers	23,275	38,425	52,100
x Westmount	26,200	26,505	31,100
Ontario	3,089,970	2,086,864	4,552,544
Belleville	13,250	26,400	29,925
x Brantford	11,041	1,292	25,693
Chatham	20,825	227,128	26,325
x Fort William	58,100	51,720	27,000
Galt	47,971	8,586	25,905
x Guelph	15,155	7,210	7,777
x Hamilton	435,098	129,012	252,859
x Kingston	54,665	18,447	43,512
x Kitchener	109,165	45,801	36,308
x London	751,410	250,610	60,320
Niagara Falls	39,025	6,245	16,570
Oshawa	10,820	17,910	6,440
x Ottawa	291,816	283,320	2,705,460
Owen Sound	13,526	5,589	4,915
x Peterborough	49,155	38,039	62,516
x Port Arthur	24,354	26,498	38,200
x Stratford	14,213	4,815	23,530
x St. Catharines	34,830	56,093	50,240
x St. Thomas	7,825	11,040	12,065
Sarnia	15,110	17,860	27,885
Sault Ste. Marie	81,285	40,800	22,965
x Toronto	660,259	507,038	584,403
York & East York Townships	178,630	192,672	216,762
Welland	22,970	17,900	19,714
x Windsor	111,265	79,747	202,111
Riverside	8,100	1,480	12,635
Woodstock	10,107	13,612	10,509
Manitoba	293,905	137,725	275,200
x Brandon	10,665	2,970	7,225
St. Boniface	20,990	28,755	62,675
x Winnipeg	262,250	106,000	205,300
Saskatchewan	42,108	37,704	346,240
x Moose Jaw	930	5,625	8,150
x Regina	22,428	12,794	81,895
x Saskatoon	18,750	19,285	256,195
Alberta	223,771	297,013	900,804
x Calgary	116,707	110,771	72,169
x Edmonton	80,940	174,045	812,110
Lethbridge	25,824	11,697	15,510
Medicine Hat	300	500	1,015
British Columbia	596,369	543,110	521,244
Kamloops	16,337	11,262	28,265
Nanaimo	3,725	15,635	4,360
x New Westminster	44,265	63,600	110,800
Prince Rupert	850	7,500	4,200
x Vancouver	470,299	402,237	313,090
North Vancouver	4,399	5,800	12,050
x Victoria	56,494	37,076	48,479
Total - 58 Cities	5,612,269	4,114,451*	9,548,687
Total - x 35 Cities	5,004,942	3,416,645*	8,919,992

* Revised to include Moncton.

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BUILDING PERMITS FOR NOVEMBER, 1939, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS FOR OCTOBER, 1939,
AND NOVEMBER, 1938, AND CUMULATIVE FIGURES FOR FIRST ELEVEN MONTHS, 1920-1939.

The aggregate value of the construction represented by the building permits issued by 58 cities during November was \$4,148,389. This was a decrease of \$1,463,380, or 26.1 p.c., as compared with the October figure of \$5,612,269, while the total was lower by \$553,448, or 11.8 p.c., than in November, 1938, when the estimated value of the building authorized by these cities was \$4,702,337. The latest figure was also below that for November, 1937, but with these exceptions was the largest for that month in the years since 1931.

The value of the building permits taken out in the first eleven months of the present year was \$53,688,802; this was lower than the aggregate of \$57,434,417 reported in the period, January-November, 1938, but substantially exceeded the total for the same months in any other year since 1931. However, the eleven months' aggregate in each of these years has been very much lower than in preceding years of the record; the wholesale prices of building materials have recently been lower than in the same period of either 1938 or 1937, although they continue higher than in any of the years, 1931-1936.

Some 50 cities furnished detailed statistics for November 1, 1939, showing that they had issued more than 500 permits for dwellings estimated to cost approximately \$1,850,000, and about 1,900 permits for other buildings estimated at over \$2,200,000. There were also two engineering projects, valued at \$23,000. During October, permits were issued for the erection of about 580 dwellings and 2,200 other buildings, estimated to cost approximately \$1,900,000 and \$3,600,000, respectively.

Quebec and Saskatchewan reported increases over October in the value of the building authorized; the former gain amounted to \$340,847, or 36.4 p.c., while that in Saskatchewan was very slight. Reductions in this comparison were indicated in the remaining provinces, that of \$1,118,059, or 36.2 p.c., in Ontario being most pronounced.

As compared with November, 1938, New Brunswick and Alberta showed increases, of \$31,785, or 82.5 p.c., and \$91,112, or 124.3 p.c., respectively. Of the declines elsewhere reported, those of \$306,329, or 81.7 p.c., in Nova Scotia, and \$244,106, or 16.1 p.c., in Quebec were largest.

Of the four most populous centres, Montreal and Toronto recorded increases in the value of the building authorized in November as compared with the preceding month, but in each case the total was lower than in November of last year. In Winnipeg and Vancouver, the aggregate value was lower than in either October, 1939, or November of last year. Of the other centres, Moncton, Saint John, Sherbrooke, Three Rivers, Chatham, Kitchener, Owen Sound, St. Catharines, St. Thomas, York & West York Townships, Riverside, Moose Jaw, Lethbridge and Victoria reported higher building authorizations than in either the preceding month, or the same month of 1938.

CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR FIRST ELEVEN MONTHS, 1920-1939.

The following table shows the value of the building authorized by 58 cities during November and in the first eleven months of each year since 1920, as well as index numbers for the latter, based upon the total for 1926 as 100. The January-November index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials in these years are also given, (average 1926=100).

Year	Value of permits issued in November	Value of permits issued in first eleven months	Indexes of value of permits issued in first eleven months (1926=100)	Average indexes of wholesale prices of building materials in first eleven months, (Average 1926=100)
1939	\$4,148,889	\$53,688,802	37.1	88.9 *
1938	4,702,337	57,434,417	39.6	89.2
1937	4,925,202	52,288,022	36.1	94.3
1936	3,097,508	38,043,527	26.3	85.1
1935	3,447,653	44,158,767	30.5	81.2
1934	2,622,534	24,935,704	17.2	82.7
1933	1,624,138	19,793,204	13.7	78.1
1932	2,553,373	40,750,142	28.1	77.4
1931	7,282,117	104,327,739	72.0	82.1
1930	11,821,292	150,939,044	104.2	91.4
1929	16,171,400	220,255,867	152.0	99.1
1928	15,830,836	203,010,555	140.1	96.9
1927	12,857,622	172,858,176	119.3	96.2
1926	9,975,451	144,877,789	100.0	100.1
1925	7,988,765	117,665,590	81.2	102.9
1924	10,212,908	120,119,829	82.9	107.1
1923	8,228,206	126,547,365	87.3	111.8
1922	11,182,030	138,698,005	95.7	108.6
1921	12,192,414	111,257,084	76.8	123.9
1920	5,627,949	112,175,268	77.4	144.3

The aggregate for the first eleven months of this year was lower by \$3,745,615 than in 1938, but was greater than in the same period of any other year since 1931. The average index number of wholesale prices of building materials, though lower than in 1937 and 1938, was higher than in preceding years since 1930.

The accompanying table gives the value of the building permits issued by 58 cities in October and November, 1939, and November, 1938. The 35 cities for which records are available since 1910 are marked thus "x".

* Average for first ten months.

Estimated Value of Construction Work as Indicated by Building Permits Issued by 58 Cities.

Cities	November, 1939	October, 1939	November, 1938
	\$	\$	\$
P.E.I.- Charlottetown	1,600	30,438	3,000
Nova Scotia	68,811	307,860	375,140
x Halifax	46,679	273,945	328,495
New Glasgow	1,955	3,915	9,590
x Sydney	20,177	30,000	37,055
New Brunswick	70,316	92,076	38,531
Fredericton	1,050	30,830	10,030
x Moncton	27,910	22,105	17,060
x Saint John	41,356	39,141	11,441
Quebec	1,276,619	935,772	1,520,725
x Montreal - x Maisonneuve	988,736	719,522	1,172,880
x Quebec	97,233	109,675	171,065
Shawinigan Falls	1,325	8,100	15,050
x Sherbrooke	138,200	49,000	86,740
x Three Rivers	42,675	23,275	26,740
x Westmount	8,450	26,200	48,250
Ontario	1,971,911	3,089,970	2,021,168
Belleville	5,850	13,250	7,950
x Brantford	9,460	11,041	10,404
Chatham	61,575	20,825	38,780
x Fort William	43,360	58,100	15,498
Galt	16,095	47,971	44,613
x Guelph	8,985	15,155	25,405
x Hamilton	122,618	435,098	303,406
x Kingston	45,415	54,665	11,562
x Kitchener	143,475	109,165	43,582
x London	106,025	751,410	34,130
Niagara	38,375	39,025	770
Oshawa	4,000	10,820	14,145
x Ottawa	138,100	291,816	107,990
Owen Sound	13,870	13,526	2,685
x Peterborough	48,399	49,155	17,440
x Port Arthur	14,910	24,354	10,296
x Stratford	5,200	14,213	1,100
x St. Catharines	50,695	34,830	19,909
x St. Thomas	12,000	7,825	8,490
Sarnia	15,015	15,110	6,399
Sault Ste. Marie	21,619	81,285	48,875
x Toronto	761,937	660,259	1,042,042
York & East York Townships	192,436	178,630	145,874
Welland	1,260	22,970	12,339
x Windsor	69,872	111,265	27,395
Riverside	9,335	8,100	4,265
Woodstock	12,030	10,107	15,824
Manitoba	201,475	293,905	236,635
x Brandon	Nil	10,665	550
St. Boniface	27,725	20,990	51,035
x Winnipeg	173,750	262,250	185,050
Saskatchewan	42,389	42,108	49,375
x Moose Jaw	15,220	930	3,590
x Regina	25,429	22,428	43,685
x Saskatoon	1,740	18,750	2,100
Alberta	164,395	223,771	73,283
x Calgary	77,145	116,707	34,188
x Edmonton	48,530	80,940	33,120
Lethbridge	37,020	25,824	3,700
Medicine Hat	1,700	300	2,275
British Columbia	351,373	596,369	384,480
Kamloops	8,684	16,337	2,770
Nanaimo	5,300	3,725	8,200
x New Westminster	6,825	44,265	21,975
Prince Rupert	1,250	850	1,950
x Vancouver	257,230	470,299	272,370
North Vancouver	5,130	4,399	13,260
x Victoria	66,954	56,494	63,955
Total - 58 Cities	4,148,889	5,612,269	4,702,337
Total - x 35 Cities	3,664,690	5,004,942	4,238,958

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BUILDING PERMITS FOR DECEMBER, 1939, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS FOR
NOVEMBER, 1939, AND DECEMBER, 1938, AND TOTALS FOR THE YEARS, 1920-1939.

The building permits issued by 58 cities in December, 1939, represented construction work valued at \$6,035,212, as compared with \$4,148,889 in November, 1939, and \$3,482,915 in December, 1938. There was therefore an increase of \$1,886,323, or 45.5 p.c. in December as compared with the preceding month, and of \$2,552,297, or 73.3 p.c. in comparison with the same month in 1938. The total for December, 1939, was the highest for that month in the years since 1931.

The value of the building represented by the construction permits taken out during 1939 was \$59,724,014; this was slightly lower than the aggregate of \$60,817,332 reported in 1938, but with this exception was the largest aggregate since that for 1931. The cumulative total in each of the last eight years has, however, been decidedly below that for any earlier year of the record; the wholesale prices of building materials have recently been lower than in the same period of 1937 and the same as in 1938, although they continue higher than in any of the years, 1931-1936.

A review of building permits granted in 1939, based on revised figures, will be issued next month.

Detailed statements for December were received from some 50 cities, showing that they had issued about 225 permits for dwellings valued at more than \$1,100,000, and 1,200 permits for other buildings at an estimated cost of more than \$3,900,000. There were also seven permits taken out for engineering work at a cost of \$519,279. During November, the construction of some 500 dwellings and 1,900 other buildings was authorized; these were estimated to cost approximately \$1,850,000 and \$2,200,000, respectively.

As compared with the preceding month, Prince Edward Island, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and British Columbia reported increases in the value of the building authorized. The gains of \$2,113,513, or 107.2 p.c. in Ontario, and \$354,151, or 100.8 p.c. in B.C. were most pronounced. There were declines in the other provinces, that in Quebec being the greatest; this amounted to \$524,949, or 41.1 p.c.

The value of the building represented by the permits taken out in Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia was higher in December, 1939, than in the same month of 1938, the most pronounced increase of \$2,345,989, or 134.9 p.c., being in Ontario. Decreases were recorded in the remaining provinces, that of \$405,848, or 35.1 p.c., in Quebec being greatest.

Of the four largest cities, Toronto reported important increases in the value of the building authorized as compared with November, 1939, and December, 1938; in Vancouver, there was a reduction in the former, but a gain in the latter comparison, while Montreal and Winnipeg reported declines as compared with either November, 1939, or December, 1938. Of the other centres, Charlottetown, Shawinigan Falls, Guelph, Hamilton, London, Oshawa, Port Arthur, St. Catharines, Sarnia, Welland, Windsor, Brandon, St. Boniface, Saskatoon, Edmonton, New Westminster and Prince Rupert reported increases in both comparisons.

CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR 1939.

The following table shows the value of the building authorized by 58 cities during the Decembers of the years since 1920, and also gives the statistics for the completed years; the 1939 figures are unrevised, while those for preceding years are revised. (A revised statement for 1939 will be issued next month). Index numbers, based upon the total value of the building authorized by these cities during 1926 as 100, are given

below, as are the average index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials in the years, 1920-39.

Year	Value of permits issued in December	Value of permits issued in twelve months	Indexes of value of permits issued in twelve months (1926=100)	Average indexes of wholesale prices of building materials, twelve months (1926=100)
1939	6,035,212	59,724,014	38.2	89.3 *
1938	3,482,915	60,817,332	38.9	89.1
1937	3,556,977	55,844,999	35.7	94.4
1936	3,282,166	41,325,693	26.4	85.3
1935	2,401,856	46,560,623	29.8	81.2
1934	2,521,820	27,457,524	17.6	82.6
1933	1,983,292	21,776,496	13.9	78.3
1932	1,569,255	42,319,397	27.1	77.2
1931	7,895,106	112,222,845	71.8	81.9
1930	15,440,281	166,379,325	106.4	90.9
1929	14,688,682	234,944,549	150.2	99.0
1928	16,095,160	219,105,715	140.1	97.1
1927	11,755,566	184,613,742	118.0	96.1
1926	11,508,818	156,386,607	100.0	100.0
1925	7,363,777	125,029,367	79.9	102.9
1924	6,463,319	126,583,148	80.9	106.6
1923	6,974,256	133,521,621	85.4	111.8
1922	9,517,402	148,215,407	94.8	108.7
1921	5,537,330	116,794,414	74.7	122.7
1920	4,844,354	117,019,622	74.8	144.0

The unrevised statistics for 1939 indicate that last year's aggregate was slightly lower than that for 1938, but was higher than in 1937 and preceding years since 1931. However, the annual aggregate for each of those years has been considerably below the average for the nineteen years, 1920-1938. The index number of wholesale prices of building materials in 1939, though lower than in 1937 and the same as 1938, was higher than in earlier years since 1930.

The accompanying table gives the value of the building permits issued by 58 cities in November and December, 1939, and December, 1938. The 35 centres for which records are available since 1910 are marked thus "x".

* Eleven months' average.

Estimated Value of Construction Work as Indicated by Building Permits Issued by 58 Cities.

C i t i e s	December, 1939	November, 1939	December, 1938
	\$	\$	\$
P.E.I.- Charlottetown	2,700	1,600	Nil
Nova Scotia	66,775	68,811	91,380
x Halifax	50,400	46,678	65,460
New Glasgow	1/	1,955	6,455
x Sydney	16,375	20,177	19,465
New Brunswick	35,600	70,316	30,880
Fredericton	Nil	1,050	17,000
x Moncton	Nil	27,910	9,100
x Saint John	35,600	41,356	4,780
Quebec	751,670	1,276,619	1,157,518
x Montreal - x Maisonneuve	545,200	988,736	912,960
x Quebec	81,150	97,233	125,040
Shawinigan Falls	95,920	1,325	7,900
x Sherbrooke	24,400	138,200	64,000
x Three Rivers	1,000	42,675	34,035
x Westmount	4,000	8,450	13,583
Ontario	4,085,424	1,971,911	1,739,435
Belleville	400	5,850	2,950
x Brantford	16,467	9,460	30,044
Chatham	35,500	61,575	47,100
x Fort William	3,710	43,360	9,215
Galt	14,895	16,095	7,725
x Guelph	20,260	8,985	8,447
x Hamilton	192,242	122,618	128,410
x Kingston	13,240	45,415	25,650
x Kitchener	85,885	143,475	27,345
x London	186,460	106,025	89,565
Niagara Falls	21,145	38,375	12,150
Oshawa	54,100	4,000	9,375
x Ottawa	67,370	138,100	73,200
Owen Sound	6,950	13,870	400
x Peterborough	4,443	48,399	33,075
x Port Arthur	36,230	14,910	3,945
x Stratford	1,557	5,200	150
x St. Catharines	53,775	50,695	19,225
x St. Thomas	8,875	12,000	44,500
Sarnia	21,994	15,015	275
Sault Ste. Marie	13,166	21,619	19,040
x Toronto	2,885,201	761,937	1,013,307
York & East York Townships	185,120	192,436	98,800
Welland	14,885	1,260	3,050
x Windsor	136,904	69,872	11,927
Riverside	3,965	9,335	16,565
Woodstock	685	12,030	4,000
Manitoba	202,032	201,475	134,940
x Brandon	9,150	Nil	Nil
St. Boniface	124,132	27,725	62,390
x Winnipeg	68,750	173,750	72,550
Saskatchewan	58,084	42,389	13,135
x Moose Jaw	4,075	15,220	Nil
x Regina	10,284	25,429	12,190
x Saskatoon	43,725	1,740	945
Alberta	127,403	164,395	41,197
x Calgary	20,374	77,145	11,267
x Edmonton	86,954	48,530	23,450
Lethbridge	20,075	37,020	5,480
Medicine Hat	Nil	1,700	1,000
British Columbia	705,524	351,373	274,430
Kamloops	6,315	8,684	3,240
Nanaimo	4,470	5,500	1,460
x New Westminster	414,150	6,825	13,600
Prince Rupert	5,925	1,250	1,402
x Vancouver	229,285	257,230	196,490
North Vancouver	3,000	5,130	1,270
x Victoria	42,379	66,954	56,968
Total - 58 Cities	6,035,212	4,148,889	3,482,915
Total - x 35 Cities	5,399,870	3,664,690	3,153,888

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